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# **HISTORICAL COLLECTION,**

**FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS, FILES, &c.,**

**OF THE**

**PART SUSTAINED BY CONNECTICUT,**

**DURING THE**

**WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.**

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**WITH AN**

**APPENDIX,**

**CONTAINING IMPORTANT LETTERS, DEPOSITIONS, &c.,**

**WRITTEN DURING THE WAR.**

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**COMPILED BY**

**ROYAL R. HINMAN,**

**SECRETARY OF STATE.**

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**HARTFORD:**

**PRINTED BY E. GLEASON.**

**1842.**

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**Entered according to act of Congress, April 23d, in the year 1842, by  
ROYAL R. HINMAN, in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of  
Connecticut.**



## PREFACE.

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It was with reluctance that the compiler of this collection of Historical facts, undertook his herculean task; he had to wade through an immense mass of records, old files of petitions, letters, depositions, reports, &c. &c., many of which papers had been illy preserved in the offices of the Secretary of State and Comptroller; and many were mutilated and torn, and difficult to decipher. The compiler flatters himself that he has not performed a useless task to the State. Many of the facts contained in this collection, will be found new and interesting to most of the present generation; the whole work will give a livelier character to the deeds of their ancestors during this eventful struggle for liberty and independence. The work contains about 100 pages of general history, so far as Connecticut was concerned in the war of the revolution. Then follows an epitome, not only of all the acts of the General Assembly, relating to the war, but also of the acts of the Governor and his Council of Safety, or Council of War, until May, 1778, as taken from the original records in the Secretary's office.

The language of the records and files, and in some instances the orthography, has been faithfully followed by the compiler.

Connecticut, though one of the great producing States during the war, not only of provisions, but of men and money to carry on the contest, has never had her full merit recognized, in any historical notice yet published, of that eventful time that so thoroughly tried men's souls. It has, therefore, been the object of the compiler to rescue from oblivion, a sufficient amount of authentic facts, to place the citizens of our own State on their true ground, as among the earlier, most zealous, and efficient movers of that physical and moral machinery, which tore America from the cruel embrace of England.

The compiler is satisfied from the investigations he has already made, that no State supplied more men, money, and means of every kind, according to her ability, than did Connecticut ; or did more to hasten on the glorious issue of the revolutionary war. Her troops were found in nearly every action in all the States.

She not only furnished her full quota, and more than her quota of the *materiel* of war, but furnished some of the wisest heads, who planned and executed the great deeds of that important time. Her Putnam was on Bunker Hill ; her Spencer in Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island, &c. ; her Parsons, Wolcotts, Huntingtons, Griswolds, Shermans, Ellsworth, Davenports, Bishops, Wooster, Silliman, Dean, and a host of others, with Governor Trumbull at their head, were foremost in the service—in our State Legislature, and in the Councils of the Continental Congress.

Should errors be found in this work, the reader would readily excuse them, could he see the perfect chaos from which the compiler has extracted the facts here published.

To such gentlemen in this city, and other parts of the State, who have aided in collecting facts, for this work, the compiler tenders them his sincere thanks, because they have been instrumental in preserving some historical facts, for the benefit of their State and country.

R. R. HINMAN.

HARTFORD, April 28th, A. D. 1842.

# AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

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## A GENERAL VIEW OF CONNECTICUT AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

THE Colony of Connecticut, in 1775, was divided into the six following Counties: Hartford, New Haven, New London, Fairfield, Windham, and Litchfield. These were sub-divided into 76 townships, which by the census taken in 1774, were found to contain the following aggregate of inhabitants:—Whites, 191,448. Blacks, 6,562. Total, 198,010.

Westmoreland, it will be noticed, was included in this census. It contained only 1,922 inhabitants in 1774, but increased rapidly after that period. When the massacre of Wyoming took place (in 1778) the population was estimated at 5,000.

The General Assembly of Connecticut, at their session held at Hartford, in January, 1771, resolved that the lands west of the river Delaware, and in the latitude of that part of the colony of Connecticut east of New York were contained in the boundaries and description of the Charter of King Charles II. to the colony of Connecticut; and as many people had settled on a part of the lands at or near a place called Wyoming, under a claim of the Connecticut colony, they applied to Connecticut to take them under her protection and government. As there were many persons of suspicious and bad characters, who had escaped from justice and resorted to said place to carry on their villanous designs with impunity, to the disgust and annoyance of the good people of the settlement; the Assembly therefore, in January, 1774, enacted that the inhabitants within the bounds of Connecticut colony, on the west side of the river Delaware, were constituted a distinct town, with all the privileges of other towns in the colony of Connecticut. The town was bounded east by the Delaware

river, north by the north line of Connecticut colony, west by a north and south line across the colony at 15 miles distance west from a place in Susquehannah river called Wyoming, and south by the south line of Connecticut colony ; which town was also annexed to Litchfield county, and called by the name of Westmoreland. It was however provided, that no person who resided in any other town in the colony should be sued before any justice of the peace in Westmoreland, or the people of Westmoreland be sued in any civil action in any other town before a justice ; and that the sheriff or his deputies of Litchfield county should not be compelled to receive any civil writ to be served in Westmoreland.

And during the same session (1774) the Governor of the colony was desired and authorized to issue a proclamation, to forbid all persons taking up, entering on, or settling any of the lands included in the charter of the colony, which lay west of the province of New York, without liberty obtained from the colony of Connecticut. The Assembly therefore appointed Roger Sherman, J. A. Hillhouse, and Thomas Howell, Esq's. (when applied to) to take into consideration the claims and settlements made on lands situate on or near the waters of the Susquehannah river within the boundaries of Connecticut by the charter, and settle the same with the claimants, and quiet their titles under Connecticut colony ; and to quiet the titles of all the settlers west of the Delaware river in the colony who had been settled there more than fifteen years, preceding January, 1774.

The Legislature of Connecticut at their May session, 1775, made the the town of Westmoreland a probate district, by the name of the district of Westmoreland. The town was incorporated in January, 1774, by the Legislature of Connecticut ; and in May, 1775, the bounds of the town were extended until it should meet with the line (then) lately settled with the Indians at Fort Stanwix, called the Stanwix line, north and south on the north and south lines of the colony of Connecticut, (with the families on said lands,) were incorporated with the town of Westmoreland, and in the same act it was annexed to the county of Litchfield.

As early as 1754, the inhabitants of Connecticut made a purchase of the natives of a large tract of land extending from the Delaware river westward about 170 miles, including the whole

breadth of the 42° of north latitude, and confirmed to Connecticut, April 23, 1662, by the charter from Charles II. In October, 1763, the settlers were dispossessed by the savages with the loss of many lives and much property, and did not resume their possession until 1769, and continued under the jurisdiction of Connecticut until 1782 ; during the period from 1774 to 1782 many of the peaceable citizens of Connecticut moved on to the lands, purchased small farms contiguous to each other for better defence, with their small farms for immediate use, and located other lands as a future dependence. And in the year 1776, they furnished the continental army with near three hundred officers and soldiers, to fight the battles of the country, which left the settlement at Wyoming, weak and unguarded. In July, 1778, the settlements were cut off by the savages, tories, and British troops, but they soon regained their position, by the zeal and prowess of those who escaped the carnage of the first attempt of the savages ; but by the great loss of men and property, the settlers were reduced and greatly distressed ; many widows and orphans were left destitute of the necessaries of life ; and the families of near two hundred officers and soldiers then in the army, became extremely helpless and needy, but were soon assisted by the return of their inhabitants and relieved only by the activity of the people of that section of country. They were continually harassed by the savages and tories until the close of the war, with immense loss of lives and property. The settlers of Wyoming were a most important and mighty barrier to the interior of the country, during the revolutionary war, with little compensation or reward.



*Return of the number of Inhabitants in Connecticut in the year 1774.*

Counties.	Males under 10 y'rs		Females under 10 years.		Males from 10 to 20 y'rs.		Females from 10 to 20 y'rs.		Males from 20 to 70 y'rs.		Females from 20 to 70 y'rs.		Males above 70 years.		Females above 70 years.		Total Whites.	Total Blacks.
	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.	Mar.	Single.		
Hartford County,	8,219		8,121		53	6,243	165	5,722	7,469	2,679	7,625	3,134	422	175	290	358	50,675	1,215
New Haven County,	4,166		4,028		23	3,167	80	2,778	4,060	1,475	4,105	1,446	182	94	113	179	25,896	923
New London County,	5,262		5,127		53	3,859	123	3,536	4,607	1,686	4,652	1,962	240	84	143	208	31,542	2,036
Fairfield County,	4,318		4,010		33	4,212	110	3,874	4,592	1,413	4,589	1,246	190	65	119	165	28,936	1,214
Windham County,	4,504		4,238		16	3,550	78	3,202	3,978	1,370	4,045	1,754	263	85	165	246	27,494	634
Litchfield County,	4,645		4,526		44	3,018	141	2,748	4,160	1,318	4,010	944	139	51	92	108	26,905	440
<b>TOTAL,</b>	<b>31,114</b>	<b>30,050</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>24,049</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>28,860</b>	<b>28,866</b>	<b>9,941</b>	<b>29,026</b>	<b>10,486</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>191,448</b>	<b>6,562</b>		

The territory embraced in the colony of Connecticut, was one of the best and most compactly settled portions of the confederacy at the beginning of the revolution. There was very little wilderness in that portion of the colony east of the Delaware. That part of Litchfield, called the Greenwoods, comprising the townships of Colebrook, Winchester, and Barkhamsted, was the only section that was very thinly settled at that time.

Connecticut had sent forth several colonies previous to this period. She had contributed largely in settling the western townships in Massachusetts ; had furnished her thousands for the settlement of the up river country, both New Hampshire and the country on the opposite side of Connecticut river, since formed into the state of Vermont. She had also established considerable settlements in the eastern borders of the province of New York, and on the distant coast of Nova Scotia ; and finally, after a long struggle, had planted a favorite colony in the beautiful valley of the Wyoming. This last settlement, she had cherished with parental solicitude, and extended to it the protection of her government, and created a separate township, attached to Litchfield county.

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#### THE MILITIA OF CONNECTICUT IN 1775.

FROM the first settlement of the colony until 1739, the militia of Connecticut had only a company organization. This year, a law was enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, that the Governor of the colony for the time being, should be Captain General and commander in chief, and the Deputy Governor for the time being, should be Lieutenant General, of and over all the military forces within the colony ; and that all the military companies in the colony, should be formed into regiments. That there should be in each regiment, appointed from time to time by the General Assembly, a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and major, who should be commissioned by the Governor of the colony for the time being. It

was further enacted, that all male persons from 16 years of age to 50, except those exempted by law, should bear arms, and duly attend all musters and military reviews of the respective companies. The companies in the colony at this time were organized into 13 regiments, and to each regiment was permission given to have one troop of horse. There was an annual inspection of arms on the first Monday in May, besides several trainings yearly, and a regimental muster once in four years.

In October, 1756, it was enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, that there should be two company reviews; one in May, and one in October.

In 1767, the 14th regiment of militia was formed from the towns of Cornwall, Sharon, Salisbury, Canaan, and Norfolk.

In 1769, the 15th regiment was formed from the towns of Farmington, Harwinton, and New Hartford.

In 1771, the 16th regiment was constituted from the towns of Danbury, Ridgefield, Newtown, and New Fairfield.

In 1774, the 17th regiment was organized from Litchfield, Goshen, Torrington, and Winchester. The same year the towns of Simsbury, New Hartford, Hartland, Barkhamsted, and Colebrook were formed into the 18th regiment. In October of the same year, four additional regiments were organized. One comprising the military companies in the towns of East Windsor, Enfield, Bolton, and that part of Hartford on the east side of the Connecticut river; this was the 19th regiment. Another including the military companies in the town of Norwich, the 20th regiment. The military companies in Plainfield, Canterbury, Voluntown, and the south company in Killingly, formed the 21st regiment. And lastly, the companies in Tolland, Somers, Stafford, Willington, and Union, for the 22d regiment. So it seems that there were twenty-two organized regiments of militia in Connecticut at the commencement of the war in 1775. In May, 1775, two more regiments were formed, one beyond the Delaware, in Westmoreland, and the other in Middletown and Chatham. In 1776, the 25th regiment was formed from the military companies in East Haddam, Colchester, and the society of Marlborough. The troops of horse were this year organized into five regiments of light horse, so that the whole number of regiments in the State were thirty; twenty-five of foot, and five of horse.

The regiments were formed in the following manner in 1776. The military companies in the towns of Hartford, (that part on the west side of Connecticut river,) Windsor, Suffield, and that portion of Farmington, lying in the parish of Wintonbury, constituted the 1st regiment; those in the towns of New Haven, Milford, Branford, and Derby, the 2d regiment; those in New London and Lyme, the 3d regiment; those in Fairfield, Stratford, and Reading, the 4th regiment; those in Windham, Mansfield, Coventry, and Ashford, the 5th regiment; those in Wethersfield and Glastenbury, the 6th regiment; those in Saybrook, Guilford, Killingworth, and Haddam, the 7th regiment; those in Stonington, Preston, and Groton, the 8th regiment; those in Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich, the 9th regiment; those in Wallingford, Waterbury, Cheshire, and Durham, the 10th regiment; those in Pomfret, Killingly, and Woodstock, except the south company in Killingly, the 11th regiment; those in Lebanon, Hebron, and the company in the society of Marlborough, in Colchester, formed the 12th regiment; those in Woodbury, New Milford, and Kent, the 13th regiment; those in Cornwall, Sharon, Salisbury, Canaan, and Norfolk, the 14th regiment; those in Farmington, exclusive of the parishes of Wintonbury and Southington, formed the 15th regiment; those in Danbury, Ridgefield, Newtown, and New Fairfield, the 16th regiment; those in Litchfield, Goshen, Torrington, Harwinton, and Winchester, formed the 17th regiment; those in the towns of Simsbury, New Hartford, Hartland, Barkhamsted, and Colebrook, the 18th regiment; those in East Windsor, Enfield, Bolton, and that part of Hartford, on the east side of Connecticut river, the 19th regiment; those in Norwich, the 20th regiment; those in Plainfield, Canterbury, Voluntown, and the south company in Killingly, the 21st regiment; those in Tolland, Somers, Stafford, Willington, and Union, the 22d regiment; those in Middletown and Chatham, the 23d regiment; those in Westmoreland, the 24th regiment; those in East Haddam and Colchester, except the company in Marlborough, in Colchester, formed the 25th regiment.

In the autumn of 1776, another organization of the militia took place. All the regiments in the State were formed into six brigades. It was enacted that there should be appointed by the General Assembly, from time to time, two major generals to command as first and second over the whole militia of the State,

who were commissioned to said office by the Governor, and had at all times power to call forth the militia, or any part of them, as should from time to time be ordered by the Assembly or Governor, for the immediate defence of this State, or the United States. It was further enacted, that there should be appointed by said Assembly, from time to time, one brigadier general to the command of each of the brigades aforesaid, who should be commissioned by the Governor, and have the same command over the respective brigades, as the major general had over the whole militia, and should be subject to the command of his superior officer in calling forth or marching the militia for defence ; and every brigadier should review each regiment of his brigade once in a year, and oftener, if the Assembly ordered. It was also enacted that the colonel, or chief officer of every regiment, should nominate and appoint a suitable person, to serve as an assistant in their respective regiments, and commission them accordingly.

The male population of the colony, in 1775, from sixteen to fifty years of age, were subject to military duty, and may be estimated, from a careful examination of the census of 1774, to amount to about twenty-six thousand persons. Of these there were nearly one thousand beyond the Delaware, and near two thousand disaffected persons, so that the whole military force in the compact settled part of the colony, that could be relied on for its defence, did not much exceed twenty-three thousand men.

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**THE GOVERNMENT, AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE COLONY,  
AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.**

THE Government of Connecticut, founded on the Charter of Charles II. contained in its structure some of the most liberal provisions that ever received the sanction of royal authority. The administrators of government, chosen by the governed, had possessed for a long period of time the unbounded confidence of their constituents. The Governor, and both branches of the legislature, having derived their authority from the same source,

exercised their functions in the utmost harmony, and were content to co-operate together for the public welfare. This was not the case in most of the other colonies, where the governors received their appointments from royal authority, and were often engaged in violent contests with the legislatures, whereby the influence of both governors and legislatures for usefulness, was much lessened.

Nearly all the constituted authorities of the colony were carried along with the people in the popular movement in 1775, so that the measures of the colony were more effective than those of any other, (except, perhaps, Rhode Island,) at this period, which of course added much to the strength of the first movement in commencing the great struggle.

The municipal institutions of Connecticut, at this time, ('75) were in many respects superior to those of any other colony, and highly favorable to the cause of liberty. The town meetings were schools where the people were instructed in the art of self-government. Here they learned to resist oppression, and co-operate mutually for their own defence. The town system of government, with the annual election of selectmen to manage the town affairs; the cheap and convenient method of recording deeds in the town clerks' offices; the district probate court system, were, most of them, organizations peculiar to this colony, and added much to the comfort and convenience of the people.

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**TAXATION, VALUATION OF PROPERTY, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE,  
AND MANUFACTURES OF THE COLONY.**

It was enacted that all rates and taxes that were granted by the general court, should be made in proportion to the general list of polls and rateable estate. It was subsequently enacted that the several towns in the colony should be chargeable and responsible for the full amount of the colony rates or taxes that were at any time granted by the general court, in proportion to the sum total of the respective lists of said towns. The subjects

of taxation were—all male persons in the several towns in the colony, from 16 years old to 70, except those exempted by law ; also, lands, dwelling houses, ships, ware houses, mills, shops, and work houses, cattle, horses and swine. There were occasionally other subjects of taxation. The grand list was made from the returns of the several towns to the general court, in October, annually. In 1775, the returns were the following :

*Grand List of the Colony, in 1775.*

Ashford,	£17,273	11	3	New Haven,	£73,210	6	2
Bolton,	10,526	1	0	New Milford,	28,169	18	3
Branford,	23,472	8	1	New Hartford,	8,837	18	6
Coventry,	20,856	14	0	New London,	35,528	17	6
Canterbury,	20,730	0	0	Norwich,	66,678	19	2
Canaan,	15,212	3	0	Norwalk,	41,955	18	1
Chatham,	22,881	8	0	New Fairfield,	12,273	3	6
Cornwall,	9,358	14	6	Newtown,	23,737	11	11
Colchester,	34,762	6	0	Plainfield,	14,216	16	0
Durham,	12,205	7	6	Preston,	25,272	14	11
Danbury,	28,501	10	8	Pomfret,	27,711	12	4
Derby,	19,315	19	7	Redding,	14,263	4	4
East Haddam,	26,674	18	0	Ridgefield,	17,491	8	6
East Windsor,	27,409	15	6	Stonington,	38,213	5	10
Enfield,	12,478	15	0	Simsbury,	30,631	8	0
Fairfield,	51,278	15	6	Suffield,	19,140	9	0
Farmington,	66,577	3	10	Salisbury,	17,087	16	0
Greenwich,	24,632	7	11	Stratford,	52,611	16	7
Groton,	26,902	6	3	Stafford,	10,412	10	0
Glastenbury,	18,752	15	7	Saybrook,	26,304	8	0
Guilford,	36,406	14	5	Stamford,	34,078	2	9
Goshen,	11,348	18	0	Sharon,	17,325	16	0
Hartford,	48,120	10	0	Somers,	9,153	19	0
Hebron,	23,815	10	0	Tolland,	1,432	8	0
Haddam,	16,591	4	7	Torrington,	5,816	15	0
Harwinton,	8,023	18	0	Voluntown,	13,801	4	0
Killingly,	27,907	12	4	Windham,	32,222	10	7
Killingworth,	20,221	1	5	Wethersfield,	32,674	0	3
Kent,	16,971	9	6	Waterbury,	37,064	3	3
Lebanon,	41,632	7	8	Wallingford,	51,504	2	9
Litchfield,	23,396	13	0	Windsor,	24,095	2	11
Lyme,	28,570	16	2	Woodstock,	20,800	0	0
Milford,	29,181	11	5	Willington,	8,660	7	1
Middletown,	42,567	12	9	Woodbury,	56,495	14	10
Mansfield,	22,077	18	3				

The commerce of the colony was very extensive and valuable at this time. The colony afforded continual supplies of cattle, sheep, hogs, wheat, rye, and indian corn, besides salt provisions, which it furnished to its neighbors on every side ; New York and Albany, westwardly ; the northern settlements, with Newport and Boston, east.

In addition to her extensive trade with the neighboring colonies, Connecticut had nearly two hundred sail of vessels, engaged in the West India trade, whose cargoes, more or less, consisted of provisions, with horses and cattle on deck. The West India trade had greatly enriched many of the inhabitants of the colony. There are said to have been three individuals at that time in Hartford, each of whose estates was estimated at 16,000 pounds sterling. Connecticut was at this time as celebrated for its sea captains as Nantucket is now. The agriculture of the colony was in excellent condition ; it was called the "provision colony." Its manufactures were chiefly of the domestic or household kind, and were very productive, furnishing a large supply of woollen and linen clothing for the use of the inhabitants.

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THE EXTENT, COMPARITIVE INFLUENCE OF THE COLONY IN 1774  
AND 1775, AND ITS FINAL DISMEMBERMENT.

CONNECTICUT was one of the most important of the American colonies at the commencement of the revolutionary war. The territorial claim beyond the Delaware had been of long standing. For more than twenty years the people and government of Connecticut had been engaged in investigating and establishing a title to the extensive region that lay between the Delaware and the Mississippi, in the same parallels of latitude as the old settled part of the colony. This region comprised an extent of territory of more than 700 miles in length from east to west, with a breadth from north to south, of about 70 miles, embracing an area of more than 50,000 square miles. This extensive region possessed a salubrious climate, and a soil equal to any part of North Amer-



ica in point of fertility. It was watered on the west by that great artery of the continent, the Mississippi, on the north by the waters of lake Erie and lake Michigan, all affording great and numerous navigable advantages.

These and other advantages combined to render it fully as desirable for settlement as any other portion of that vast and then unpopulated tract lying west of the settled part of the colonies.

Some of the most sagacious of the inhabitants of Connecticut had at an early period, with a prophetic eye that does honor to their intelligence, seen, in the vast region beyond the Delaware, the germs of future greatness, and had fondly hoped to see the swarms of emigrants that had then begun to leave the parent hive, accommodated with homes in this western region where they might enjoy, under the excellent municipal institutions of the parent colony, much comfort and tranquillity.

A spirit was soon awakened in Connecticut as to the importance of this western tract of country, and after many years of patient exertion in quieting Indian titles, and many laborious efforts to effect settlements—attended with various contests both with Indians and with people in the interest of the proprietary government in Pennsylvania, success finally crowned the efforts of the projectors of this enterprise. In 1774, the colony had become so numerous, that it was taken under the protection of the government of Connecticut, and organized into a township as a part of Litchfield county, by the name of Westmoreland. In 1775, the township was made into a probate district, by the name of Westmoreland. In the same year the militia of the township were formed into the 24th regiment of Connecticut militia. In 1776, it was enacted that the town of Westmoreland, lying on the west side of the river Delaware in this State, should be a distinct county, and be called the county of Westmoreland, and should have and exercise, the same powers, privileges, and authorities, and be subject to the same regulations as the other counties in this state, except in cases limited by this act. By this act Westmoreland became the seventh county in Connecticut, and fully under its jurisdiction.

This section of Connecticut prospered, flourished, and increased in population, until the fatal massacre and devastation of the settlement, in 1778.

In 1778, at the time of its destruction, the settlement extended over eight townships, and was estimated to contain about a thousand families, and five or six thousand inhabitants. The settlement was scarcely resuscitated, when by the unjust decree of Trenton, in 1782, it was torn from Connecticut, and subjected to the authority of Pennsylvania, contrary to the wishes, and without the consent of the inhabitants. By this unrighteous act, Connecticut which had held rank in the confederacy of 1775, as a colony of the first magnitude, and had been literally the keystone State of the confederacy during the revolutionary struggle; had met every crisis with the greatest promptitude and vigor, and had made such great sacrifices to establish the cause of liberty and independance, underwent the mortification of seeing the integrity of her territory violated, her size diminished, her laws solemnly enacted nullified without her consent, and her rank in the Union reduced.

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**THE SPIRIT OF '74 AND '75, IN CONNECTICUT.**

THE remote predisposing causes of the American revolution, were various and numerous; but the prominent and immediate cause of this great and memorable popular movement, was undoubtedly the Boston Port Bill. This act of the British Parliament, to destroy the trade of Boston, excited universal sympathy for Massachusetts throughout the colonies, but in no colony was the sympathy manifested stronger than in Connecticut. The people of Connecticut were connected with those of Massachusetts by the strongest ties of blood, friendship, and interest, and the veneration for the parent colony was almost universal. Boston was the great commercial emporium of the New England colonies, and the seat of refinement and intelligence. The misery and distress brought on this town by the unjust act of the British Parliament, raised such a spirit of resistance as had never before been witnessed in the "land of steady habits." The House of Representatives, then in session at Hartford, on the re-

ceipt of the intelligence of the passage of the Boston Port Bill, passed strong resolutions against the unjust act, and the towns expressed their disapprobation of it, and their sympathy with the people of Boston, by calling large meetings, and passing Resolutions. New Haven took the lead, and was followed by most of the towns in the eastern and central sections of the colony, who adopted, most unanimously, resolutions of the most patriotic character, pledging every aid to their suffering brethren in Boston. In these town meetings was generated the spirit of enquiry and resistance to tyranny so essential to that future progress of the war of independence.

Windham county was conspicuous as the seat of this spirit of patriotism and sympathy. Here resided Gov. Trumbull, Gen. Putnam, and many other master spirits of the revolution. This county had been more recently settled by emigrants from Massachusetts, than most of the other counties in Connecticut, and her trade was almost entirely with Boston; hence the sympathy of the inhabitants was ardent in the cause of their distressed brethren in Massachusetts. The contiguous counties were but little behind Windham in their patriotic devotion to what they considered the common cause. But the western section of the colony, especially Fairfield county, does not appear to have participated so strongly in this incipient spirit of the revolution. The remoteness of this part of the colony from Boston, its almost exclusive trade with New York, together with other reasons which were developed in the course of the revolution, explain the cause of the comparative want of patriotic ardor in this portion of the colony.

Paper resolutions, and patriotic words, were not the only effect of these town meetings; but deeds of the most benevolent character, were common events. Donations from almost every town, were sent to the relief of the distressed inhabitants of Boston and Charlestown. Live stock, bread stuff, &c., were sent in great abundance. The town of Windham, at one time, generously gave two hundred and fifty fat sheep; Wethersfield collected and sent on a large quantity of wheat, &c. The inhabitants of Georgia sent to the inhabitants of Boston, sixty three barrels of rice, and £122, in specie sterling, under the care of John Eaton Le Conte, Esq. The city of London subscribed £30,000 sterling for the poor of Boston. In Schoharry, in the

county of Tryon, N. Y. the committee men of that place, collected five hundred and twenty-five bushels of wheat for the relief of the sufferers in the towns of Boston and Charlestown, which was sent.

The town meetings at this time, were conducted with the utmost propriety, and the resolutions adopted, were generally characterized with decision and firmness, and undoubtedly had great influence in establishing among the people, an almost universal spirit of resistance to British oppression, and a determination to support their friends in Boston with every possible aid in their power.

Amidst the glow of enthusiasm, and the strong excitement and indignation against the British ministry and its supporters and upholders, which pervaded Connecticut so generally, in the summer of 1774, it is much to the credit of the inhabitants, that very few acts of violence were committed. Only two are recorded, that are worthy of notice. The first is the case of the Rev. Samuel Peters, of Hebron, an Episcopalian clergyman. It seems that he and his friends had got up for publication, some resolutions approving the conduct of the British parliament, and condemning the opposition of the people of the colonies. This occasioned a visit from some three hundred people, from the towns of Tolland, Bolton, and Hebron, on the morning of the 15th of August, who coerced Mr. Peters to comply with their requisitions.

The other case occurred in Farmington, where the act of the British parliament, (the Boston Port Bill) was burnt in great contempt, by the common hangman, in presence of the assembled multitude.

One of the most remarkable events of the year, was the great alarm from Boston, by which the adage that "coming events cast their shadows before," was most truly exemplified. The alarm was, that the ships of war were cannonading Boston, and the regular troops massacreing the inhabitants, without distinction of age or sex. This news spread like wild-fire throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut, and in less than thirty-six hours, the country was rallied for more than one hundred and seventy miles in extent. From the shores of Long Island Sound to the green hills of Berkshire, "to arms!" "to arms!" was the universal cry. Instantly, nothing was seen on all sides, but men of all ages,

cleansing and burnishing their arms, and furnishing themselves with provisions and warlike stores, and preparing for an immediate march ; gentlemen of rank and fortune, exhorting and encouraging others by their advice and example. The roads were soon crowded with armed men, marching for Boston with great rapidity, but without noise or tumult. No boisterous mirth or irregularity of any kind, attended their march, but silent firmness and invincible determination were portrayed in every face. By the most moderate computation, there were in the colony of Connecticut alone, not less than twenty thousand men completely armed, actually on their march for Boston, with full speed, until counter intelligence was received on the road. This alarm was on the 3d of September, 1774.

On the 15th of September, of the same year, there was a patriotic assemblage at Hartford, of delegates from most of the towns in the eastern and central, and a number from the western sections of Connecticut. This might be called the first "Hartford Convention," and was somewhat different in character from that which assembled at the same place nearly forty years after that period.

This convention adopted many strong resolutions in favor of a Non-consumption Agreement, being entered into by the consumers of British goods, and reprobated in the strongest language, the spirit of monopoly and forestalling, that then prevailed to a great degree among the mercantile portion of the community.

About this time, the patriotic opposers of the doctrine of unconditional submission to the authority of the British parliament, adopted the appropriate appellation of "sons of liberty." Liberty poles (having the word "liberty" inscribed on them) were raised in every direction, emblematic of the spirit of the times. Some of these were of an extraordinary elevation. One in East Haddam was 147 feet high ; another in the parish of Chester, in Saybrook, 106 feet high. On the one in East Haddam, was hoisted a large union flag, with the emblem of liberty neatly portrayed thereon, fighting the cause of America against tyranny. At the dedication of this pole, by the "sons of liberty," cheers were given, and several guns fired on the occasion, and resolutions adopted, to promote good order and unity.

The press—the Palladium of Liberty—was conducted with great ability, and breathed forth the language of freedom, at this

eventful period. The columns of the newspapers then abounded with animating and instructive essays, and dissertations on the abstract principles of justice, with examples taken from ancient and modern history. The three newspapers then published in the colony, were all faithful to the cause of freedom; but the one in New London, called the "Connecticut Gazette, and Universal Intelligencer," published by Timothy Green, was distinguished for its superior devotion to the cause of liberty, and the rights of America.

The delegation to the General Assembly which met in New Haven, in October, 1774, was of the most patriotic character, being composed for the most part, of men who had taken an active part in the town meetings of the preceding summer, or belonged to the association of the "sons of liberty." They were men of determined spirit, devoted to the rights and liberties of their country. This Assembly held an adjourned session in March, 1775, and another in April of the same year. At the April session, a law was enacted to raise one-fourth of the militia for the special defence of the colony; formed into companies of one hundred men each, and into six regiments. A major general, two brigadier generals, and six colonels, were appointed. This force was subsequently sent to Boston, after the affair of Lexington.\* This Assembly also authorised the purchase of three

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\* The annexed companies marched from the following towns in Connecticut, for the relief of Boston, &c., in the Lexington alarm, April, 1775.

Woodstock, Capt. Benjamin Lyon, with 35 men; East Windsor, Capt. Charles Ellsworth, 37, Capt. Matthew Grant, 28; Woodstock, Capt. E. Manning, 22; Branford, Capt. Josiah Fowler, 36; Hartford, Capt. Abraham Sedgwick, 33; Woodstock, Capt. Daniel Lyon, 27; Windham, Capt. Wm. Warner, 41; East Haddam, Col. Joseph Spencer, John Willey, Capt., 43; Canterbury, Capt. Aaron Cleveland, 20; Somers, Capt. Emery Pease, 47; East Windsor, Capt. Amasa Loomis, 43; Windham, Capt. James Stedman, 49, Capt. Return J. Meigs, 43; Norfolk, Capt. Timothy Gaylord, 24; New Hartford, Lieut. Uriah Seymour, 5; Simsbury, Capt. Amos Wilcox, 25; Wethersfield, Capt. John Chester, about 60; Lyme, Capt. Joseph Jewitt, 55; Canterbury, Capt. Joseph Burgess, 20; Union, Capt. Thomas Lawson, 26; Enfield, Capt. Nathaniel Terry, 57; Wallingford, Capt. Isaac Cook; Killingworth, Capt. Aaron Stevens, 26; Canterbury, Lt. Col. A. Johnson, Shrebiah Butt, Capt., 30; Ashford, Capt. Thomas Knowlton, 78; Chatham, Capt. Silas Dunham, 36; Fairfield, Capt. David Dimon, about 50; Glastenbury, Capt. Elizur Hubbard, 47; Brooklyn, Gen. Putnam; Milford, Capt. Peter Perrit, from different places, 73; Windsor, Capt. Nathaniel Hayden, Jr.; New Haven, Capt. Hezekiah Dickerman, 9;

thousand stand of arms, and the issuing of £50,000 in bills of credit equal to lawful money, and laid a tax of seven pence on the pound on all polls and rateable estate in the colony.

Bolton, Capt. Ezekiel Olcott, 34; Colchester, Capt. Eliphalet Bulkley, 69; Middletown, Capt. Cumfort Sage, 43; East Windsor, Capt. Lemuel Stoughton; Pomfret, Capt. Zebulon Ingalls, 89; Norwich, Capt. Jedediah Huntington, 70; Tolland, Capt. Solomon Willis, 50; Plainfield, Capt. Andrew Backus, 54; Stafford, Lt. Col. Stephen Moulton, Zephaniah Alden, Capt., 17; Wallingford, Capt. John Couch; Hartford, Lieut. Col. George Pitkin; Hebron, Capt. Worthy Waters, 61; Guilford, Capt. Noah Fowler, 45; Durham, Col. James Wadsworth, Stephen Norton, Capt.; Mansfield, Lieut. Col. Experience Storrs, Jonathan Nichols, Capt.; Derby, Maj. Jabez Thompson, Capt. Nathaniel Johnson, 32; Lyme, Lieut. Thomas Way, Jr., 6; Killingworth, Capt. Samuel Gale, 25; Capt. Lemuel Roberts, 10; Preston, Capt. Ebenezer Witter, 99; Col. Samuel H. Parsons; Maj. Thomas Brown; New Hartford, Capt. Seth Smith; Killingly, Maj. Wm. Danielson, Joseph Cady, Capt., 88; Coventry, Maj. Thos. Brown, Joseph Talcott, Lieut., over 100; Lebanon, Capt. Daniel Tilden; Windham, Capt. John Kingsley; Suffield, Capt. Elihu Kent; Woodstock, Lieut. Mark Elwell, 22; Greenwich, Capt. Abraham Mead, 58; Stonington, Capt. Benjamin Park; Bolton, Capt. Thomas Pitkin, 27; Woodstock, Capt. Samuel McLelland, (troop of horse) about 45; Willington, Maj. Elijah Fenton, Ebenezer Heath, Capt., 30; Stafford, Capt. Amos Walbridge, 23; Saybrook, Capt. John Ely, 59; Stafford, Capt. Paul Blodget, 23; New Haven, Capt. Benedict Arnold; Guilford, Ensign Jehiel Meigs, 23; Simsbury, Capt. Zachariah Gillet, 26; Hartford, Capt. Jonathan Welles, Capt. Timothy Cheney, 24; Middletown, Lieut. Amos Hosford, 16; Woodstock, Capt. Nathaniel Mercy, 38; Killingly, Capt. Joseph Elliott, 58; Windham, Lieut. Mather Bingham, 22; Stamford, Capt. Joseph Hart, with 33 men marched to New York for its protection, occasioned by the alarm of the battle at Lexington; Capt. Amos Wallbridge and his company; Capt. Lemuel Stoughton and his company.

The number of men, where given, are generally correct, the files from which they are taken are so badly mutilated, they may not be perfectly accurate—and to some Captains, their number of men cannot be ascertained, and in some cases even the towns from which they marched. There were but few towns in this State who were not fully represented at Lexington and Boston immediately after the alarm reached Connecticut.

*An account of moneys paid by Connecticut to the inhabitants of the following towns, for their services and expenses in the Lexington alarm, in April, 1775, per order of the Assembly, in May, 1775.*

To the Selectmen of				To the Selectmen of			
Enfield,	}	£191	2 6	Windham,	}	£378	15 5
Lebanon,		339	0 2	Enfield,		191	2 3
Suffield,		295	18 2	Tolland,		157	0 3
New Haven,		238	1 11	Wallingford,		146	14 10
Norfolk,		66	9 2	Willington,		57	19 1



The delegation to the General Assembly that was elected in April, '75, to meet at Hartford, in the succeeding May, were not less patriotic than their predecessors. This Assembly held an adjourned session, in July. They sanctioned the successful northern enterprise of the capture of the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point ; provided for the prisoners there taken, and sent a force of a thousand men to occupy those important posts ; besides affording every aid to their suffering bretheren in Massachusetts.

In the July session, two additional regiments were raised, making in the whole, eight regiments. An additional sum of

East Windsor,	£228	6	7	Canterbury,	£171	1	6
Fairfield,	174	8	2	Lyme,	222	0	7
Coventry,	204	12	11	Derby,	10	4	0
Mansfield,	221	8	0	Windsor,	69	15	6
Plainfield,	138	16	6	Somers,	153	16	8
Middletown,	177	14	4	Preston,	102	0	2
Stafford,	100	12	5	Killingsworth,	65	19	11
Haddam,	89	2	9	Hebron,	218	3	2
Saybrook,	48	19	0	Colchester,	217	18	7
Greenwich,	53	14	6	Branford,	52	15	1
Stonington,	4	17	8	Durham,	102	9	5
Killingly,	227	7	7	Voluntown,	141	9	6
Woodstock,	352	17	5	New Hartford,	62	0	9
Pomfret,	201	5	6	Wethersfield,	156	2	11
Union,	40	7	9	Bolton,	116	4	5
Guilford,	149	15	4	Glastenbury,	38	4	9
Chatham,	28	10	8	Stamford,	28	8	4
Simsbury,	14	0	5	East Haddam,	239	10	9
Norwich,	152	8	5	New London,	251	18	6
Ashford,	153	1	3	Capt. Peter Perrit's com'y of Rangers,	138	11	4
Total,				£7,370 3 4			
Also to individuals for provisions purchased before the colony could supply,				£454 3 2			
Total,				£7,824 6 6			

**Certified by**

**THO'S. SEYMOUR,**  
**EZEK'L. WILLIAMS,**  
**O. ELLSWORTH,** } **Committee of**  
**Pay Table.**



£50,000 in bills of credit, was issued, making the whole amount issued in 1775, £100,000. Duties of the highest responsibility, and most dangerous character, were assumed by the members that composed both delegations of the General Assembly of 1775; but all these duties were discharged in such a judicious and successful manner, that few bodies of men in the history of legislation, are better entitled to the gratitude of the friends of liberty and human rights, than were the disinterested and patriotic members that composed the General Assembly and Government of Connecticut, in 1775.

*Officers of the Colony of Connecticut, 1775.*

HON. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor—HON. MATTHEW GRISWOLD, Lieut. Governor. Assistants, Jabez Hamlin, Elisha Sheldon, Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Wm. Samuel Johnson, Abraham Davenport, Joseph Spencer, Oliver Wolcott, and James Abraham Hillhouse, Esq's.

*Representatives of the Freemen in the several Towns in the Colony.*

*Hartford County.*—Hartford, Col. John Pitkin, Col. Samuel Wyllys; Wethersfield, Maj. Thomas Belding; East Windsor, Wm. Wolcott, Col. Erastus Wolcott; Simsbury, Capt. Judah Holcomb, Asahel Holcomb; Windsor, Capt. Henry Allyn, Capt. Josiah Phelps; Farmington, Col. Isaac Lee, Jonathan Root; Suffield, Alexander King, Capt. John Leavitt; East Haddam, Daniel Brainard, Jabez Chapman; Stafford, Capt. Isaac Pinney, Capt. Samuel Davies; Haddam, Capt. Joseph Brooks, Joseph Smith; Colchester, Maj. Henry Champion, Doct. John Watrous; Somers, Reuben Sikes, Capt. Emery Pease; Hebron, Benjamin Buell, Capt. Obadiah Horsford; Canterbury, Capt. Jonathan Wells, Ebenezer Plummer; Middletown, Col. Matthew Talcott, Titus Hosmer; Bolton, Benjamin Trumbull, Seth King; Tolland, Capt. Solomon Welles, Capt. Samuel Chapman; Willington, Maj. Elijah Fenton, Capt. Timothy Pearl; Ellfield, Maj. Nathaniel Terry, Nathaniel Chapin; Chatham, David Sage, Ebenezer White.

*New Haven County.*—New Haven, Samuel Bishop, Capt. Jonathan Fitch; Durham, Col. James Wadsworth, Daniel Hall; Guilford, Col. Andrew Ward, John Burgiss; Derby, Capt. John Holbrook, Joseph Hull; Waterbury, Joseph Hopkins, Col. Jona-

than Baldwin ; Milford, Capt. John Fowler, Ephraim Strong ; Branford, Capt. Edward Russell, Daniel Page ; Wallingford, Samuel Beach, Capt. Thaddeus Cook.

*Fairfield County.*—Fairfield, Jonathan Sturges, Capt. Samuel Squire ; Stratford, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ichabod Lewis ; Stamford, Col. Charles Webb, Col. David Waterbury ; Danbury, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Thomas Taylor, Jr. ; Ridgefield, Capt. Lemuel Morehouse ; Redding, Wm. Hawley ; Norwalk, Thomas Belding ; New Fairfield, Ephraim Hubbell, Capt. Nehemiah Beardslee ; Greenwich, Maj. John Mead, Peter Mead ; Newtown, John Beach, Jr.

*Litchfield County.*—Litchfield, Jedediah Strong, Maj. David Welch ; Woodbury, Daniel Sherman, Capt. Increase Mosely ; Salisbury, Col. Joshua Porter, Capt. Abiel Camp ; Kent, Ephraim Hubbell, Jr., Capt. Eliphalet Whittlesey ; Canaan, Asahel Bebee, Capt. Samuel Forbes ; Sharon, Maj. Ebenezer Gay, James Pardy ; New Milford, Maj. Samuel Canfield, Capt. Sherman Boardman ; Goshen, Col. Ebenezer Norton, Capt. Samuel Nash ; New Hartford, Maj. Abel Merrell, Zebulon Merrell ; Cornwall, Heman Swift, Capt. Thomas Porter ; Torrington, Maj. Epaphras Sheldon, Noah Marshall ; Harwinton, Josiah Phelps, Mark Prindle ; Westmoreland, Capt. Zebulon Butler, Maj. Ezekiel Pierce.

*New London County.*—New London, Richard Law, Wm. Hillhouse ; Norwich, Benjamin Huntington, Samuel Huntington ; Stonington, Maj. Charles Phelps, Nathaniel Miner ; Killingworth, Capt. Elnathan Stevens, Capt. John Pierson ; Groton, Thomas Mumford, Nathan Gallop ; Preston, Capt. Roger Sperry, Col. John Tyler ; Lyme, Marshfield Parsons, Ezra Selden ; Saybrook, Capt. John Ely.

*Windham County.*—Windham, Col. Jedediah Elderkin, Ebenezer Devotion ; Lebanon, Col. Wm. Williams, Jonathan Trumbull, Jr. ; Mansfield, Col. Experience Storrs, Nathaniel Atwood ; Woodstock, Capt. Elisha Child, Capt. Samuel McLellan ; Coventry, Capt. Ebenezer Kingsbury, Jeremiah Ripley ; Canterbury, David Payne, Eleashel Adams ; Killingly, Stephen Crosby, Capt. Eleazer Warren ; Pomfret, Gen. Israel Putnam, Elisha Lord ; Ashford, Capt. Benjamin Sumner, Capt. Ichabod Ward ; Plainfield, Capt. James Bradford, Wm. Robinson ; Voluntown, Maj. James Gordon, Robert Hunter.

**William Williams, Speaker.**

**Richard Law, Clerk.**

**John Lawrence, Treasurer.**

**George Wyllys, Secretary of State.**

**Election Sermon delivered by the Rev. Joseph Perry.**

**Hon. Matthew Griswold appointed Chief Judge of the Superior Court.**

**Eliphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman, Wm. Pitkin, and Samuel Huntington, Judges of the Superior Court.**

**Jabez Hamlin, Judge of the County Court for Hartford county.**

**Elihu Chauncey, Judge of the County Court for New Haven county.**

**Richard Law, Judge of the County Court for New London county.**

**Abraham Davenport, Judge of the County Court for Fairfield county.**

**Shubael Conant, Judge of the County Court for Windham county.**

**Oliver Wolcott, Judge of the County Court for Litchfield county.**

*Probate Judges.*—Joseph Talcott, Joseph Spencer, Jabez Hamlin, Isaac Pinney, Solomon Whitman, John Owen, John Whiting, Gurdon Saltonstall, Aaron Elliott, Jabez Huntington, Charles Phelps, Ebenezer Silliman, Abraham Davenport, Thomas Benedict, Wm. Williams, Jabez Fitch, Ebenezer Williams, Oliver Wolcott, Daniel Sherman, Joshua Porter, (Joseph Sherman Judge of Probate for Westmoreland.)

**William Wolcott, Seth Wetmore, Samuel Talcott, and Erastus Wolcott, Esq's., Justices of Peace and Quorum for Hartford county.**

**Thomas Darling, John Fowler, Samuel Bishop, Jr., and James Wadsworth, Jr. Esq's., for New Haven county.**

**Samuel Coit, William Hillhouse, Jeremiah Mellen, and Samuel Selden, Esq's., for New London county.**

**Samuel Adams, Robert Fairchild, Joseph Platt, and Joseph Platt Cook, Esq's., for Fairfield county.**

**Jabez Fitch, Joshua West, Ebenezer Williams, and William Williams, Esq's., for Windham county.**

**Increase Mosely, Daniel Sherman, Bushnell Bostwick, and Joshua Porter, Esq's., for Litchfield county.**

The Governor of the colony received as a salary in 1775, the sum of £300 ; Lieutenant Governor, £100 ; Treasurer, £180 ; Secretary of State, £20.

*Justices of the Peace appointed for Hartford County, May, 1775.* George Wyllys, Joseph Talcott, John Pitkin Benjamin Payne, John Lawrence, Thomas Seymour, Oliver Ellsworth, Elisha Williams, Solomon Welles, Thomas Belding, Josiah Bissell, Henry Allyn, Roger Newberry, Charles Ellsworth, Jr., Nathaniel Chauncey, Matthew Talcott, Richard Alsop, Titus Hosmer, Solomon Whitman, Joseph Hart, Jared Lee, John Strong, Selah Hart, Isaac Lee, Jr., Fisher Gay, Stephen Hotchkiss, John Owen, Josiah Holcomb, Jonathan Pettibone, Hezekiah Humphrey, Oliver Humphrey, Joseph Welles, Jabez Brainard, Joseph Brooks, William Wells, Elizur Talcott, Jonathan Wells, Alexander King, Daniel Brainard, Jabez Chapman, Dyer Throop, Samuel Huntington, Epaphras Lord, John Watrous, Daniel Foot, Peter Bulkley, Henry Champion, of Colchester, Daniel Barber, John Phelps, Samuel Gilbert, Ephraim Terry, Joseph Olmsted, Benjamin Talcott, Thomas Pitkin, Joel White, Samuel Cobb, Samuel Chapman, Isaac Pinny, Daniel Alden, Abner Barker, Moses Holmes, David Sage, Nathaniel Freeman, Ebenezer White, Reuben Sikes, Emery Pease, John Leavitt, Asahel Holcomb, Benjamin Colton, Jesse Root, Silas Dean, George Pitkin, John Chester, and Samuel Eastbrook, Esq'rs.

*Justices for the County of New Haven.* Elihu Chauncey, James Abraham Hillhouse, John Whiting, Daniel Lyman, Samuel Sacket, Samuel Hemmingway, Caleb Beecher, Simeon Bristol, Enos Alling, David Wooster, David Baldwin, Ephraim Strong, Charles French, John Daviss, Joseph Hull, Jr., John Wooster, Thomas Matthews, Joseph Hopkins, Jonathan Baldwin, Timothy Judd, Samuel Lewiss, Phineas Roger, Aaron Lyman, Dan Johnson, Caleb Hall, Oliver Stanly, Reuben Atwater, Nathaniel Ruggles, Timothy Todd, John Burgiss, Samuel Brown, Oliver Dudley, Samuel Barker, Josiah Rogers, James Barker, Wm. Gould, Wm. Greenough, Lamberton Smith, Jr., Joel Hotchkiss, Gideon Buckingham, Samuel Beach, Eliakim Hall. and Timothy Hill, Esq'rs.

*Justices for the County of New London.*—Richard Law, Gurdon Saltonstall, John Murdock, John Hemsted, Joshua Raymond, Jonathan Lattimer, Jr., Winthrop Saltonstall, John Still Winthrop, Wm. Whiting, Ebenezer Hartshorn, Elisha Fitch,

Jacob Perkins, Simeon Tracy, Jr., Benjamin Huntington, Elisha Lathrop, Christopher Leffingwell, Samuel Tracy, Rufus Lathrop, Nehemiah Huntington, Nathaniel Backus, Daniel Bishop, Wm. Witter, Benjamin Coit, Sam'l. Mott, Robert Crary, John Tyler, Joseph Dennison, John Williams, Charles Phelps, Paul Wheeler, Nathaniel Miner, Stephen Babcock, Joseph Palmer, Luke Perkins, Wm. Williams, Nathan Smith, Benadam Gallop, William Avery, Robert Geer, Ebenezer Ledyard, Thomas Mumford, Wm. Morgan, Benjamin Lee, John Lay, 2d, Samuel Ely, Samuel Holden Parsons, Eleazer Mather Noyes, Hezekiah Whittlesey, John Shipman, Justus Buck, Benjamin Williams, Wm. Worthington, Elnathan Stephens, Aaron Elliott, John Pierson, Theophilus Morgan, David Avery, Ezra Selden, Samuel Leffingwell, Jr., Richard Wait, Samuel Field, and Roger Strong, Esq's.

*Justices for the County of Fairfield.* John Brooks, Daniel Judson, Ichabod Lewiss, David Wilcoxson, Daniel Fairchild, James Walker, Philip Nichols, Samuel Odell, Ebenezer Silliman, Gold S. Silliman, Nathan Bulkley, Jonathan Sturgess, Samuel Bradley, Ebenezer Banks, Abraham Andrews, David Cooley, Samuel Wakeman, Thomas Belding, Thomas Fitch, Samuel Fitch, Elias Betts, Theophilus Fitch, Thomas Youngs, Charles Webb, David Waterbury, Jr., Benjamin Weed, Messenger Palmer, Peter Mead, John Mead, Amos Mead, Samuel Olmsted, Philip Burr Bradley, Daniel Cooley, Thomas Benedict, Samuel Taylor, Daniel Taylor, Thaddeus Benedict, Ephraim Hubbell, Thomas Brush, Nehemiah Beardslee, Alexander Stewart, Zechariah Towner, Richard Fairman, John Chandler, John Read, Lemuel Sanford, Jr., David Wood of Greenwich, Joseph Bradley of Fairfield, and Wm. Hawley of Redding, Esq's.

*Justices for the County of Windham.* Samuel Gray, Jedediah Elderkin, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Jacob Simons, Hezekiah Manning, Ebenezer Devotion, Benajah Bill, John Clark, Joseph Storrs, John Salter, Elijah Dyer, E. Adams, Elijah Wheaton, Benjamin Sumner, Nathaniel Child, Samuel Child, Jr., Jedediah Morse, Charles Church Chandler, John Grosvenor, Thomas Williams, Samuel Craft, Nathan Frink, Isaac Coit, James Bradford, Jacob Dresser, Thomas Moffatt, Bryant Brown, Wm. Danielson, Thomas Strong, Ephraim Root, Abraham Burnap, Jeremiah Keeney, Robert Dixon, Samuel Stewart, Abner Sessions, and Solomon Wales, Esq's.

*Justices for the County of Litchfield.* Jacob Woodruff, Isaac Baldwin, David Welch, Reuben Smith, Andrew Adams, Daniel Everit, Benjamin Hinman, Gideon Walker, Thomas Warner, Joseph Pierce, Paul Welch, Samuel Bostwick, Samuel Canfield, Joseph Ruggles, William Cogswell, John Ransom, Daniel Lee, Nathaniel Elliott, Ephraim Hubbell, Jr., Daniel Griswold, John Canfield, Joseph Lord, James Landon, John Hutchinson, Charles Burrall, Elisha Baker, Samuel Forbes, Thomas Russell, Heman Swift, Thomas Porter, Samuel Nash, Ebenezer Norton, John Cook, Epaphras Sheldon, Abijah Catlin, Daniel Catlin, Matthew Gillett, Zebulon Merrell, Michael Humphrey, Giles Pettibone, Nehemiah Andrews, Zebulon Butler, Nathaniel Dennison, Silas Park, Edward Hinman, John Vensent, Wm. Judd, and Bezaleel Tyler, Esq's.

Joseph Sherman, Esq. of \*Westmoreland, was appointed a Judge of Probate, and a Justice of the Peace for the county of Litchfield.

The capture of Ticonderoga,† one of the most brilliant exploits of the revolutionary war, was a Connecticut measure. The

\* Westmoreland (in the State of Pennsylvania, in 1775) belonged to Connecticut, and constituted a part of Litchfield county, and was represented in the General Assembly of this colony, by Capt. Zebulon Butler, and Maj. Ezekiel Pierce, whose names are favorably known in the history of Wyoming.

† In the spring of 1775, a project to capture the British Fort, at Ticonderoga, was concerted in Connecticut. Several gentlemen proceeded from Connecticut to Vermont for that purpose; among whom was Capt. Noah Phelps, of Simsbury. He was selected to proceed to the fort, examine its situation and condition, and make report to his associates. He proceeded from the southern part of Lake Champlain in a boat, and stopped for the night at a tavern near the fort. The officers of the garrison occupied a room, adjoining that in which he slept, for a supper party, and as usual on such occasions protracted their entertainment to a very late hour. They spoke of the commotion in the colonies and the condition of their fort. Very early in the morning, Capt. Phelps gained admission into the fort for the purpose of being shaved. While retiring through it, the commandant walked with him, and conversed about the rebels, their movements and their object. Capt. Phelps seeing a portion of the wall of the fort in a dilapidated condition, remarked that it would afford but a feeble defence against the rebels if they should attack it. The commandant replied, yes, but that is not our greatest misfortune, for all our powder is damaged, and before we can use it, we are obliged to sift and dry it. He left the fort, and soon after proceeded to the lake shore and employed a boatman to transport him in a small boat down the lake. He entered the boat in plain view from the fort and under her guns. He had not proceeded a great distance before he urged the boatman to

projectors of this expedition, were, as has already been stated, several patriotic members of the General Assembly, convened at Hartford, in April, 1775. They obtained the funds from the Colony treasury as a loan, for which their individual receipts, with security, was given. The committee appointed by the originators of the expedition, collected sixteen men in Connecticut, and

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exert himself and terminate the voyage as soon as possible. The boatman requested Capt. Phelps to take an oar and assist—this was declined, being in full view of the fort, by replying that he was not a boatman. After rounding a point of land, projecting into the lake and intercepting the view from the fort he proposed taking the oar, and did so. Being a strong and active man, he excited the surprise of the boatman by the velocity of the boat, who with an oath, replied you have seen a boat before now, sir. This circumstance, at the time, excited the boatman's suspicion that his passenger was not a loyal subject, but fear of superior strength prevented an attempt to carry him back to the fort, as he told Capt. Phelps after the surrender. Capt. Phelps reached his place of destination, met his associates, and told them what he had discovered. The next morning, May 10th, 1775, the fort, upon demand made by Col. Allen, by authority of "the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress" was surrendered. The cannon, small arms and ball contained in it, rendered this achievement more important in the success of the revolutionary war than posterity can appreciate.

After the fort was surrendered to Ethan Allen and his company, of about eighty-three armed men, who had proceeded on the expedition without any authority from Connecticut, who had taken the aforesaid measure so effectually to surprise them, that little or no resistance was made. One corner of the fort having fallen down, and all their powder being wet and unfit for use, the officers and soldiers were obliged to surrender to Col. Allen and his company, having also been overpowered by a superior force. After they were disarmed, they were ordered immediately to be sent to Hartford, in the colony of Connecticut, where they were detained as prisoners of war, consisting of forty-seven private soldiers of his majesty's troops, together with Gov. Skeen, Maj. Skeen, (his son,) Maj. French, Capt. Delaplace, &c., besides women, children and several servants. After the arrival of said prisoners at Hartford, on the 24th of May, 1775, Capt. Wm. Delaplace, commandant of the fort of Ticonderoga, (one of said prisoners,) brought his petition to the Assembly of this State, in which he stated that on the morning of the 10th of May, 1775, the garrison of the fortress of Ticonderoga had been surprised as aforesaid; and stated that neither the officers or soldiers held by this colony had been guilty of any crime, and enquired, why they should be taken and held as prisoners, by Col. Allen and his company; and enquired by what authority he had acted; and asked the protection of said Assembly, and wished to be set at liberty, that they might return to the post from whence they had been taken, and join the 26th regiment to which they belonged—or wished to be informed in what light they were to be regarded, as prisoners of war or not—and if as prisoners, by whom detained, &c. The Legislature had no particular action upon the petition of Capt. Delaplace,



proceeded to Berkshire county, Mass., where they obtained the aid of some influential citizens, and forty or fifty volunteers were added to their small force. The expedition then advanced to Bennington, Vt., where it was joined by Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, and nearly one hundred volunteers. The little army, consisting of about one hundred and fifty men, thus raised,

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but continued to hold them as prisoners of war. Gov. Skeen, Maj. Skeen, and Maj. French, were taken from Hartford to West Hartford, on an order of the Assembly, for their better security—they boarded in the family of widow Hooker in West Hartford about a year, at their own expense. Gov. Skeen had his family with him. They were often insulted by our inhabitants as enemies of the colony, and narrowly escaped tar and feathers by his neighbors at West Hartford, for his insults offered the inhabitants. In May, 1775, the General Assembly directed the committee of the pay table, to give orders on the Treasurer of this colony for the payment of all persons who had actually expended moneys, or given their written obligations therefor, or for personal service in obtaining possession of Ticonderoga and Crown Point; also for men and provisions used in taking and securing said fortresses, by any inhabitants of this colony, or others employed by them for that purpose. Two years after, viz. in May, 1777, Samuel Holden Parsons, Esq., informed by his memorial to the General Assembly of this State, that in April, 1775, himself, together with Col. Samuel Wyllys, Silas Dean, Esq., and others, did undertake surprising and seizing the enemy's fort at Ticonderoga, without the knowledge of said Assembly, and for that purpose took a quantity of money from the Treasury, and gave their notes and receipts for said money, all which had been expended in said service; and prayed the Assembly to cancel said notes and receipts so given to the Treasurer, which amounted to the sum of £810. The persons who signed said notes, &c., were said Parsons, Dean, Wyllys, Samuel Bishop, Jr., William Williams, Thomas Mumford, Adam Babcock, Joshua Porter, Jesse Root, Ezekiel Williams, and Charles Webb; which sum was directed to be charged over to the General Government.

At this early period of the war, (May 11, 1776) the Americans were jealous and alarmed at the rustling of every leaf, and watchful of every movement. At this time it was the custom of the blacks, as it had been for years previous, and continued to be, some time after the war closed, for the negroes in Connecticut, in imitation of their masters, to elect a negro for their Governor, who by them, was uniformly treated with great attention, and by their respect for him, he never failed to get his title of Governor when addressed by his colored brethren. Cuff was at this time their Governor, and had held the office for ten years, and on the 11th day of May, aforesaid, he resigned his office to John Anderson, a negro servant of Gov. Skeen, which resignation and appointment were in the words and figures following, viz. :

“Hartford, 11th May, 1776.

“I Governor Cuff of the Niegro's in the province of Connecticut, do Resign my Governmentshipe, to John Anderson Niegor Man to Governor Skene.



marched to Castleton, where a military organization took place and Ethan Allen, a native of Connecticut, was appointed commander, James Easton, of Berkshire, second, and Seth Warner, an officer from Connecticut, third in command. After detaching a small force to take possession of Skeensborough, the remainder marched directly to a point opposite to Ticonderoga,

“ And I hope that you will obey him as you have Done me for this ten year's past, when Colonel Willis' Niegor Dayed I was the next. But being weak and unfit for that office do Resine the said Governmentshipe to John Anderson.

“ I: John Anderson having the Honour to be apointed Governor over you I will do my utmost endeveres to serve you in Every Respect, and I hope you will obey me accordingly.

JOHN ANDERSON Governor  
over the Niegors in Connecticut.

Witnesses present,

The late Governor Cuff, Hartford,  
Quackow,  
Petter Wadsworth,  
Titows,  
Pomp Willis,  
John Jones,  
Fraday.”

May, 1776. At this appointment the citizens of Hartford became alarmed, Gov. Skeen was at once suspected of being concerned in his negro's election, with some design upon the citizens of the State. Therefore the Governor and Council of the colony, convened at Hartford, took the subject into solemn consideration, and appointed a committee to investigate the subject, of which Jesse Root, Esq, was chairman; the committee took with them a constable and immediately repaired to Gov. Skeen's lodgings, found his door locked, and the governor absent. One of the committee remained to guard his room while the others proceeded after him, and found him returning home, and brought him before the committee, and on enquiry whether he had carried on any correspondence with our enemies; he answered he had sacredly kept his engagements in his parole, and had no papers but his own private papers, and offered his keys to the committee to examine his papers. He was asked if he had any previous knowledge of the negroes electing his servant governor of the negroes, or had any hand in effecting said election—which he denied, except a few words that passed between a Mr. Williams and his negro, which he supposed was mere sport, and had no hand in bringing it to pass directly or indirectly. He was enquired of, if he gave his negro money to make a feast for the negroes—he answered that he gave him a half-joe to keep election, but that he knew nothing of the treat at Knox's; that on Friday, he heard his negro was chosen governor, and was fearful it might excite jealousy, and even avoided speaking to him to avoid suspicion, and declared upon his honor, he had no papers about him.

The committee then proceeded to examine the negro governor, who stated

where, after obtaining the assistance of Nathan Beman, a young man, for a guide, and waited the return of Capt. Phelps from the fort, &c., a select body, amounting to only eighty-three men, assaulted on the morning of the 10th of May, the fortress of Ticonderoga, and captured it without the loss of a man.\*

A large quantity of ordnance and military stores were obtained by this exploit. The officers and forty-seven were privates taken prisoners.

that one Sharper, a negro man first mentioned to him about being governor. and that he informed the negroes, if they would elect him, he would treat them to the amount of \$20, and it had cost him \$25, but declared that no regular officer or soldier had spoken to him on the subject; that there was no scheme or plot, and that he had done it as a matter of sport, and intended no injury to the country, but had the curiosity of seeing an election; that he had been informed the negroes chose a governor annually, and thought he would set up for it. He stated that he got his \$25 by going in a vessel on the lakes, where he had certain perquisites of his own.

The committee made many other enquiries of Gov. Skeen and his servants, together with the captain, (Delaplace). And ex-Governor Cuff stated that he had been advised to resign his office to Skeen's negro by some of his black friends and some of the regulars, and that he appointed him without an election, as some of them declared they would not have a tory for a governor. On Friday night after the election, the negroes had a dance and entertainment at Mr. Knox's, in Hartford, at an expence of 50s., which was paid by others, and Gov. Skeen's negroes were not allowed to pay any thing. This bill was paid by Majors French and Dermot; which facts were stated to the Governor and Council by Jesse Root, Esq., Chairman, May 22, 1776.

\* Joseph Allen, the father of Col. Ethan Allen, was born in Coventry, in this State, and when young he married Mary Baker, of Roxbury, then a society of Woodbury, Connecticut, at which place they resided until the birth of their two eldest children, of which Ethan is supposed to be one of them. Joseph Allen then removed his family to Litchfield, from Litchfield he again removed to Cornwall or Salisbury, from which place several of the sons with Ethan emigrated to Vermont, in the early part of the settlement of that territory.

Capt. Seth Warner, (afterwards Col. Warner) was the third in command in the taking of Ticonderoga, though he did not cross the Lake and reach Ticonderoga until after Col. Allen, with his 83 men were in full possession of it. Col. Allen sent Capt. Warner with a detachment of men to take Crown Point, who were met at Crown Point by Capt. Remember Baker with his company, and united with Capt. Warner in taking the post.

Col. Allen, and Captains Warner and Baker were all born at Roxbury, then a society in Woodbury. After the close of the war, Col. Warner returned to his farm in Roxbury, on which he remained until his death. He was interred at Roxbury, over whose remains was erected a marble table, on which is inscribed a short history of his valorous deeds in the revolution.

This, the first offensive military operation of the revolutionary war, was of great importance to the colonies. Besides furnishing a large supply of arms, it opened to them the entrance into Canada.

The honor of the first conquest, made by the colonies, belongs chiefly to Connecticut. She also had to sustain the burthen of maintaining her acquisition, although the captured posts were within the jurisdiction of the colony of New York. One thousand men, under the command of Col. Hinman, were sent from Connecticut, in the summer of 1775, to garrison the forts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

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**NOTE.** The following is an account of moneys advanced and paid out of the public Treasury of Connecticut, for the benefit and defence of the colonies in the year 1775 to Nov. 18th, 1775.

To the militia marched in the Lexington alarm, £7,824 6 6; in reducing and securing the fortresses at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, £1,511 5 0; raising, and advanced for wages to the eight regiments, £49,330 4 5; for supplying said troops with stores and provisions, £56,951 8 2; for equipping said troops with arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, £1,213 4 8; for supplying the battalion of riflemen on their march, £297 9 0; fitting out two armed vessels, £1,415 0 0; for raising troops for defence of the sea coast, mounting cannon, and erecting the battery at New London, £930 8 6; for procuring powder, lead, flints, three thousand stands of arms, &c., £7,563 19 7; to supply loss of blankets and arms at Bunker Hill, £204 9 7; to non-commissioned officers and soldiers of militia for special attendance on military discipline, per order of Assembly, October, 1774, £5,152 4 0; to expense of the special session of the Assembly, &c., £2,216 19 8; for post riders and exprees, £345 3 5; for various services, transportation, &c., £2,094 18 10. Total amount, £137,051 1 5.

**NOTE.** When the news of the Lexington alarm reached Gen. Putnam, he was ploughing in his field. So anxious was he for the fight, that he stopped his team and left them in the unfinished furrow, without even taking off the yoke from his oxen, went to his house, bid farewell to his wife, mounted his horse and started for Lexington and Boston.

THE SPIRIT OF THE YEAR 1774.

THE great object in the year 1774, by those who supposed war with the mother country was inevitable, was to form public opinion in favor of war with Great Britain; to do which, it became necessary to inform the people of their just rights, by

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*The following scraps of Historical Facts are inserted for preservation.*

In December, 1774, Gen. Timothy Ruggles, of Hardwick, in Massachusetts, who was one of the leaders of the royalists, boldly espoused the cause of the King, by forming an association of tories in that and other colonies, under a constitution or compact, of six articles, to which, the signatures of such as united in said association were subscribed, which was openly published in the newspapers in Boston, Hartford, and other places.

1st. That they would on all occasions with their lives and fortunes, stand by and assist each other, in defence of life, liberty and property, when attacked or endangered by any body of men, riotously assembled under any pretence or authority not warranted by the laws of the land.

2d. To mutually support each other in the free exercise of their undoubted rights to liberty, in *eating, drinking, buying, selling*, (Tea) communing and acting, what, with, whom and as they pleased, consistent with the *laws* of God and the *King*.

3d. That they would not acknowledge or submit to the pretended authority of any Congresses, committees of correspondence, or other unconstitutional assemblies of men, but to oppose the forcible exercise of all such authority at the risk of their lives.

4th. That they would to the utmost of their power, promote and encourage, when called, and enforce obedience to the rightful authority of King George the 3d, and of his laws.

5th. That when the person or property of any so associated should be invaded by any committees, mobs or unlawful assemblies, that notice being given, would forthwith repair properly

holding town meetings, for the discussion of their greivances and their rights. A large majority of the yeoman of Connecticut became greatly excited, exasperated and patriotic, by holding

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armed, to the person on whom such invasion or threatening should be, and to the utmost of their power defend such person and his property, and if need be, to oppose and repel force with force.

6th. That if any of such associates should be unjustly or unlawfully injured in his person or property by such assemblies, the others should unitedly demand, and if in their power, compel such offenders to make full reparation for such injury, and if all other means of security should fail, to have recourse to the natural laws of retaliation.

Several letters from England were received, stating that the King had issued his proclamation, and prohibited the exportation of either arms or ammunition from Great Britain to the colonies, and had ordered two men-of-war to the Texel, in Holland, to prevent the transportation of those articles in English bottoms to America.

In December, 1774, a letter from Connecticut to a gentleman in New York, gave the information that the towns of Newtown and Ridgefield had protested against the proceedings of the Grand Continental Congress, and that other towns were expected to follow the example.

In the latter part of January, 1775, a gentleman of Hartford went to New York, to procure a town stock of powder, where he purchased it, and on his return with it, through the town of Stamford, a customhouse officer seized it. When the news reached Hartford, thirty respectable men immediately went to Stamford to recover the powder, which they effected.

Feb. 1775. At a meeting of the committees of observation of the towns in Litchfield county, at Litchfield, Feb. 22d, to consider and advise upon the most effectual method of carrying into execution the continental association, according to the true spirit thereof; to cultivate that union and harmony which so happily

town meetings. I therefore insert in this work, a few of the doings of several towns in this State, shewing the manner of forming public opinion on the subject.

At a legal meeting, held at New Haven, on the 23d day of May, 1774, Daniel Lyman, Esq., Moderator.

Voted, That we will to the utmost of our abilities, assert and

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subsisted among them, and which the dark and insidious foes of their peace and liberty, by every base and treacherous device, were endeavoring to weaken and confound. They passed several resolutions, expressing their views upon the subject of their meeting ; among which they strongly recommended to the people of the county that they should treat all persons who should endeavor by any means or ways to sow the seeds of discord, with that utter contempt that such criminals justly deserved ; and that all who should transgress the rules of the association ; that the people of the county should be governed by the great line of conduct marked by the Continental Congress, by withdrawing all communion from such persons, as being inimical to the rights of human nature ; and resolved to adopt the mode of proceeding agreed upon by the counties of Hartford and New Haven, in regard to persons *accused* of violating the articles of said association.

By request of the students of Yale College, the exhibitions of the seminary were to be discontinued during the unfavorable aspect of the affairs of the colonies ; and the senior class appointed a committee to wait upon the authority of college with a petition for a private commencement.

The House of Representatives of the colony of Connecticut voted an address of thanks to the House of Assembly of the important island of Jamaica, for their kind and seasonable mediation, by their petition and remonstrance to his Majesty in favor of the colonies. The Speaker was directed to write to the Assembly of said island and enclose a copy of their resolution, and of the one passed May, 1773, as to appointing a committee of correspondence, inviting them to come into that method of communicating such intelligence as should be of public importance, and immediately affecting the inhabitants of the British colonies and islands in America.

defend the liberties and immunities of British America, and that we will co-operate with our sister towns, in this and the other colonies, in any constitutional measures that may be thought most conducive to the preservation of our invaluable rights and privileges.

Voted, That Joshua Chandler, Esq., Samuel Bishop, Jr., Esq.,

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The distress was such in Boston, in 1775, that large quantities of grain, rum, &c. &c., were sent from the other colonies for their relief, generally done by subscriptions, particularly for the use of the poor; and one John Prette John, of Barbadoes, in February, advertised to the people of Barbadoes, that he would receive on board of his vessel, rum, &c. for said purpose, together with what he then had for the poor of Boston.

The Black Act had its first reading before Parliament, Feb. 10, 1775; in which it was resolved to bring in a bill to restrain the trade and commerce of the provinces of Massachusetts bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Providence plantations, in North America, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the British islands in the West Indies, and prohibit such colonies carrying on any fishery on the banks of Newfoundland, &c.

*The New York General Assembly.*

For the city of New York. John Cruger, the present speaker, a merchant, uncle to the counsellor who married brigadier De Lancey's daughter, and to one of the present members for Bristol, in Parliament; James De Lancey, nephew to brigadier De Lancey, and brother-in-law to governor Penn; James Jauncey, a merchant, father to the counsellor, who married sir Gilbert Elliott's neice; Jacob Walton, a merchant, brother-in-law to Mr. Cruger, the counsellor, and nephew to the speaker.

Richmond county. Benjamin Seaman, a shop keeper, colonel of the militia, and judge of the county during pleasure, and father-in-law to the clerk of the county, who holds his office likewise during pleasure; Christopher Billop, a farmer, who married Col. Seaman's daughter, also a colonel of the militia.

King's county. Simon Boerum, clerk of the county, and one of the delegates to the general congress; John Rapalje, colonel of the militia, a farmer.

**Daniel Lyman, Esq., Mr. Stephen Ball, Pierpont Edwards, Esq., John Whiting, Esq., Mr. Isaac Doolittle, Mr. David Austin, Capt. Joseph Munson, Mr. Peter Colt, Mr. Jeremiah Atwater, Mr. Timothy Jones, Jr., Mr. Isaac Beers, Capt. Timothy Bradley, Mr. Silas Kimberly, Simeon Bristol, Esq., Mr. Joseph Woodward, and Capt. Joel Hotchkiss, be a standing committee for the**

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**Queen's county.** Zebulon Williams or Seamans, a farmer, and captain in the militia; Daniel Kissam, a farmer, and justice of the peace during pleasure.

**Suffolk county.** Nathaniel Woodhull, a farmer, colonel of the militia, and judge of the inferior court; William Nicoll, clerk of the county, a lawyer.

**West Chester county.** Isaac Wilkins, a native of Jamaica, educated under doctor Cooper, at the New York college, now studying divinity, and intending soon to go home for Episcopal orders, likewise an intimate friend of Dr. Chandler, of Elizabethtown; John Thomas, judge of the county during pleasure; Frederick Philipse, colonel of the militia, and brother-in-law to Col. Morris the counsellor; Pierre Van Cortlandt, colonel of the militia.

**Dutchess county.** Dirck Brinckerhoff, a shop keeper, and colonel of the militia; Leonard Van Kleck, a shop keeper, and colonel of the militia.

**Albany county.** Peter R. Livingston, colonel of the militia, eldest son of the proprietor of the manor of Livingston, and brother-in-law to Mr. Duane, one of the delegates, and nephew to Philip Livingston, another of the delegates; Philip Schuyler, colonel of the militia, and first judge of Charlotte county; Jacob H. Ten Eyck, a justice of the peace, and father to the sheriff of Albany county, both holding their offices during the pleasure of the governor; Abraham Ten Broek, colonel of the militia, uncle to the lord of the manor of Renselaerwyck, and brother-in-law to Philip Livingston, Esq., one of the delegates at the Congress; Jacobus Mynderffe, a farmer of Schenectady.

**Cumberland County.** Samuel Wells, colonel of the militia, judge of the inferior court, and father-in-law to Mr. Gale, clerk of that county; Crean Brush, a native of Ireland, practising the law in Cumberland county, who sold the clerkship of the county to Judge Webb's son-in-law.



salutary purpose of keeping up a correspondence with the towns of this and the neighboring colonies, and in conjunction with them, pursuing in the present important crisis, such judicious and constitutional measures as shall appear to be necessary for the preservation of our just rights, the maintenance of public peace, and support of general union, which at this time is so absolutely requisite to be preserved throughout this continent.

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**Tryon county.** Guy Johnson, superintendant of the Indian affairs, in the room of sir William Johnson, colonel of the militia, and judge of the inferior court; Hendrick Frey, colonel of the militia, and judge.

**Ulster County.** George Clinton, a lawyer, and clerk of Ulster county; Charles De Witt, a farmer.

**Orange county.** John Goe, a judge of the inferior court; Samuel Gall, a tavern keeper at Goshen, and major in the militia.

When the grand question was put for considering the proceedings of the Congress, there appeared for taking them into consideration, Messrs. Boerum, Seamans or Williams, Woodhull, Nicoll, Van Courtlandt, Livingston, Schuyler, Ten Broek, Clinton, DeWitt.

And against taking them into consideration; Messrs. Jauncey, Billop, Philipse, De Lancey, Rappleje, Van Cleck, Walton, Kissam, Brush, Col. Scaman, Wilkins.

The other members, viz. : Thomas, Brinkerhoff, Ten Eyck, Mynderffe, Wells, Johnson, Frey, and Coe, being absent, when the question relating to the proceedings of Congress was proposed, the public must wait for some future opportunity to be informed of their sentiments on the interesting measures of the continent, for the preservation of the liberties of America.

A correspondent, at the end of this list, raised the following very pertinent queries :

First, Whether the great number of crown officers, or their near relations in the Assembly, is not a proof either of our extreme negligence of our liberties, or of the vigilance of government for biasing our members ?

Second, Whether though the highest honor is due to the integrity of so many gentlemen who nobly risked their offices by their fidelity to the country, it is not nevertheless a scandal to the province, that we have as yet no place bill to exclude such

Also, Voted, That a copy of the above resolves, shall be transmitted to the committee of correspondence for the town of Boston, in answer to their letter to this town.

A true copy of record, examined by

SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Town Clerk.

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from the House of Assembly, as after an election render themselves dependent upon the Crown for offices held during pleasure. And,

Third, Whether upon the arbitrary project of the late Parliament for introducing a council into the Massachusetts bay, at the pleasure of the Crown, it does not appear, to be an indispensable duty firmly to insist upon a law utterly to exclude the dangerous influence of his Majesty's council, at the elections for representatives of the people. [Connecticut Courant, April 17, 1775.]

A gentleman from New London, who was at Cork, in Ireland, April 2d, 1775, wrote to his friend in New London, that there were then lying in Cork, ready to sail, twenty-five large transport ships, for Boston ; and many more were ordered to prepare for the same purpose ; who wrote to forewarn the Americans to be in readiness for the crisis.

June 7, 1775. News arrived in Hartford, June 5th, that the General Committee for Albany, (N. Y.,) had resolved to raise eight hundred men for the defence of American liberty, and as soon as it was made known, three companies were immediately enlisted and marched for the defence of Ticonderoga and Crown Point. The preceding week, Col. Hinman, from Connecticut, in the command of the 4th Regiment of troops raised in this colony, marched for their station at Ticonderoga. Maj. Gen. Wooster, with a regiment, and Col. Waterbury's regiment had marched for Greenwich—eight companies of Col. Parsons' regiment were encamped at New London.

June 14, 1775. The birth-day of His Majesty, (he being 37 years of age) was celebrated in N. York, by a royal salute from the Asia man-of-war, of 64 guns, in New York harbor, under the command of George Vandeput, the crew gave three cheers, which was answered by some few on the docks ; no illuminations in the city, except a solitary house, which lights were soon with-

LEBANON, June 2d, 1774.

Yesterday being the 1st of June, the day on which the cruel Edict of the British Parliament respecting the town and port of Boston took place, was observed here with marks of distinction. The bells of the town early began to toll a solemn peal, and continued the whole day. The town house door was hung with

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drawn, which was done to shew their disapprobation of the public measures of the King.

June, 1775. A letter was received at Hartford, June 19th, from Albany, giving the news that three Sachems had been to Albany, desirous to befriend the colonies, provided they did not interfere with the safety of Col. Johnson and Capt. Close, whom they intended to defend, in duty to their father-in-law. Also, that Gen. Johnson and his family, with fourteen batteaus and thirteen wagons, laden with goods and furniture, had gone to fort Stanwix; and that Col. Johnson had summoned the Indians far and near to meet him in Oswego in General Congress.

1775. John Ransom, of Kent, who had used bohea tea, which was a breach of the "non-consumption agreement" of the Association, in drinking tea; on the 24th of April, 1775, published in the Connecticut Journal his acknowledgment for once using inadvertently that "detestable and obnoxious vegetable, called East India tea."

The Continental Congress appointed George Washington, of Virginia, Commander-in-Chief, of all the American forces; Artemus Ward, of Massachusetts, Charles Lee, of Pennsylvania, Philip Schuyler, of Albany, N. Y., Israel Putnam, of Connecticut, Major Generals; John Sullivan, of New Hampshire, Brigadier General; and Horatio Gates, Adjutant General. Thomas Mifflin, of Philadelphia, was appointed Aid-de-Camp by General Washington. General Lee appointed Samuel Griffin, of Virginia, his Aid-de-Camp.

The Newport Mercury, stated that the troops from Connecticut, at Cambridge and Roxbury, in the fore part of July, 1775, were three thousand, and several other companies on their way there.

black, with the Act affixed thereto; the shops in town were all shut and silent; their windows covered with black and other ensigns of distress. Towards evening, a respectable number of freeholders of the place, and others, (upon short notice) appeared at the town house, when the Act was publicly read and observed

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New Haven, July 12, 1775. Last Sunday the sloop-of-war *Lively* chased an inward-bound vessel from Connecticut, and with two of her armed boats, (while the sloop-of-war was aground on Saybrook bar) and after a short examination left the vessel, though the report of the guns had drawn many of the militia from the country to the shore, where several random shots were exchanged with the boats. The sloop-of-war *King Fisher*, from New York, was cruising in the Long Island sound, and on the 11th day of July, she came to anchor at Branford.

July, 1775. The regiment, quartered at Cambridge, Mass., were assembled on parade, when the Rev. Dr. Langdon read to the general officers and soldiers, "a Declaration by the Representatives of the United States, in General Congress," which set forth the causes and necessity of the war, which was received with great applause by the army, and a large concourse of citizens assembled, which was evinced by three huzzas from all present. Soon after Major General Putnam convened all the Continental troops under his immediate command, on Prospect Hill, near Boston, where the Declaration was read to them, after which a pathetic address was made by the Rev. Mr. Leonard (chaplain of Gen. Putnam's regiment) to the army, succeeded by a pertinent prayer. Gen. Putnam then gave a signal, and the whole army shouted their loud amen, by three cheers: a cannon was then fired from the fort, while the standard which had been presented to Gen. Putnam was flourishing in the air, with the motto on one side "an appeal to Heaven," on the other side, "Qui transtulit sustinet."

July 6th, 1775. A German hussar, a veteran in the wars of Germany, appeared at the door of Congress, in Philadelphia, in his uniform and on horseback, with a fortorn cap upon his head, with a streamer waving from it, half down to his waistband, with a death's head painted in front, a beautiful hussar cloak, ornamented with lace and fringe and cord of gold, a scarlet waist-

upon ; when the following Address was made, and Resolutions unanimously adopted :

Gentlemen, The occasion of our meeting is interesting and solemn—I hope we are met together with dispositions suitable to the occasion. We are now, my brethren, to determine whether we will tamely submit to every act of cruel oppression,

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coat under it, with shining yellow mettle buttons ; a light gun strung over his shoulders ; a turnpike sabre, much superior to an highland broad sword, very large and well fortified by his side ; holsters and pistols upon his horse ; indeed a most war-like and formidable figure. He reported he had fifty such men ready to enlist under him, who were used to the service as hussars in Germany, and wished immediately to visit Boston to see Burgoyne's light horse. [Connecticut Journal.]

Several towns in Connecticut sent to Boston, provisions, stockings, and other clothing.

A new plan was adopted in Connecticut as to post riders and post masters, in 1775.

The constitutional post offices on the southern road were kept by Winsley Hobby, at Middletown ; Elias Beers, at New Haven ; Thaddeus Burr, at Fairfield, and John Holt, Esq., (printer) at New York, who was the only person authorized to receive the eastern letters for New York, and the mails for the southern provinces.

In May, 1775, the inhabitants of New London received the information from Cambridge, that Gen. Gage intended seizing all our vessels on the sea coast, and that New London would soon be visited, which caused several persons to move their families and effects out of New London.

The congregational clergy of New England were active in the cause of liberty during the revolution, and taught the people from their pulpits, that the Christian religion was a stranger to mere despotic power, as the great Montesquieu declared. The clergy declared to the King and his tories, as did Socrates when accused by the Athenians of corrupting and seducing the youth of Athens by his philosophy, he defended himself more like an

or indignantly reject, and with manly resolution remonstrate to, every instance of unjust power, by whatever hand attempted. Persuaded you cannot hesitate one moment in the choice of the alternative, and will propose the following Resolutions.

That we do all at this time, heartily sympathise with our brethren of Boston, in the scenes of distress which this day opens upon them.

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apostle than a philosopher, by saying "that he believed the province was committed to him by God, that he was called by him to this employment, to endeavor to reform the world, and therefore for him to forsake his station for fear of death, or of any other temporal evil, would be a most grievous sin. I am not (said he) afraid to die; but this I am afraid of, to disobey the commands of my Superior, and to desert the station, he has placed me in, and to give over the work he has appointed me: this I must affirm to you, that I ought to obey God rather than you; and so long as I have breath, I will never give over exhorting and teaching the people."

Major Skeen had a commission appointing him Governor of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Montreal, with orders to raise a regiment of Canadians to join Gen. Gage against the Americans.

On the 16th of July, an express passed through Hartford from Crown Point to Governor Trumbull.

The camp distemper raged at Boston, not only in the army, but among the citizens.

On the 19th of July, a company of riflemen arrived in Hartford from Philadelphia, of one hundred and seven men, the next day they proceeded on their march to join the army.

On the 23d of July, the Derby company passed through Hartford from their station at New Haven, on their way to Cambridge.

On the 25th of July, his majesty's ships of war, the Rose, commanded by Wallace; the Swan, commanded by James Ascough; the King Fisher, commanded by Montague, with a small tender, arrived in New London harbor and cast their anchors.

On Tuesday preceding the 27th day of July, about one thou-

That we view with the utmost indignation, the cruel act of unjust power which introduces this distress.

That we consider them as suffering under the hand of ministerial vengeance for their noble exertions in the cause of liberty ; the common cause of all America.

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sand men under Col. Waterbury, of Connecticut, marched from the camp at Harlaem for Albany.

Among the many who signalized themselves by heir gallant and intrepid conduct in the battle at Bunker Hill, from Connecticut, were Maj. Gen. Putnam, whose capacity to plan and execute great designs, and whose undaunted courage on that occasion, raised him to an enviable height in the estimation of the Americans ; Maj. John Chester, of Wethersfield, captain of a company in Gen. Spencer's regiment ; Lieut. Col. S. Webb, who marched up to the lines with their men and reinforced the troops, by their undaunted courage, were justly entitled to the grateful acknowledgment of their country ; Lieut. John Keyes, in Capt. Knowlton's company, of Ashford, was on the left wing in the action, and fought with invincible resolution ; Lieut. Thomas Grosvenor, of Thompson, charged the enemy closely and maintained his ground like a hero, until wounded in his hand ; Lieut. Bingham, of Norwich, and Ensign Bill, of Lebanon, gave full proof of their courage ; Capt. Knowlton, Capt. Coit, Lieuts. Dana and Hide, and many other officers and soldiers, who distinguished themselves by their courage and merit, deserve recording in the history of their country.

August 7, 1775. General Putnam who commanded the Connecticut troops at Boston, was esteemed as a veteran soldier ; he had served during the whole of the (then) last war against the French ; he was wounded fifteen times in the service of his country ; he was once taken prisoner by the Indians, who first attempted to scalp him, then tied him to a tree, and when about to set fire to the combustibles thrown around him, a French officer happening at the instant to pass by, saved his life. Such a man was qualified to command the virtuous provincials of Connecticut ; one who was noticed for his undoubted bravery, good sense, honor, and patriotism.

And that we are heartily willing and desirous to unite our little powers in whatever general measure shall be thought best for the security and permanency of the just rights and privileges of our country. Being determined, as far as we are able, to stand fast in the liberties wherewith God has made them free. And at

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The Continental Congress established a continental post office, and appointed Dr. Benjamin Franklin, post master, with a salary of \$1,000 per annum.

About sixty aged gentlemen at Middletown, (as was the case in other towns in Connecticut) formed themselves into a company to attain the military art, with a determination of preserving the liberty of their country; the drummer of said company was over eighty years of age, and was as much engaged and alert as in his younger days.

Nine companies of riflemen from Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, passed through Hartford, on their way to Head Quarters at Cambridge, commanded by able and spirited officers; even the soldiers were many of them gentlemen of fortune.

Three companies raised in Connecticut, passed through Hartford, to join the army at Cambridge.

Col. Thompson, colonel of the Pennsylvania first regiment of riflemen, with a number of young gentlemen volunteers, passed through Hartford for the camp at Cambridge.

About the 6th day of August, nine ships, one brig, one scow, one schooner, and two sloops, were discovered beating up New London harbor, which alarmed the people of the town; they immediately sent out expresses to alarm the neighboring towns. But it was discovered they were bound for Fisher's Island to take off stock, which they effected by the next morning, viz.: 1,130 sheep, 3 milch cows, 1 pair of working oxen, 25 young cattle, and 10 hogs, (the fat beef had been carried off the day before). On Tuesday morning, they anchored on the east side of Gardner's Island, where they took off the stock.

News was received from Westmoreland, in the west part of the colony of Connecticut, that about fifty Indians of the Six



the same time would unite our ardent supplications to our Almighty Helper, the Great Father of the distressed, that American councils may be directed by his wisdom, to those measures that shall be most conducive to the desired end.

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nations came there and encamped a short distance from the settlement, and the next day came into the village and delivered their message, and declared their grief at the difference between Great Britain and the Colonies ; that they should not take up the hatchet on either side ; that they wished to be at peace with the English as long as the stream ran down the Susquehannah river. That should a difference arise, they would try every healing measure for the redress of the greivance ; that as Col. Grey Johnson had left his habitation and they had no superintendant, they desired Col. Butler to take the trust ; and that they might in future hold their Congresses at Westmoreland.

On the 13th of August, 1775, a rifle company from Lancaster county, Penn., and two companies raised in Connecticut, passed through Hartford to join the army near Boston.

A treaty with the six nations of Indians, as reported by Capt. Breed, of Wyoming, was made, who was desired by some of the chiefs to give their love to the great man at the head of the Congress at Philadelphia, and desired that all future messages from Congress to the Six Nations, should be made through Col. Butler.

The fleet of men-of-war who plundered Fisher's Island, took also about 50 cattle and 800 sheep from Gardner's Island, and 11 cattle from Plumb Island, and sailed for Boston. Mr. Brown, the owner of the stock at Fisher's Island was applied to for the stock, and payment offered for it, but wishing not to dispose of it, they threatened to take it without paying him, when he reluctantly received payment ; but the stock taken from the other two Islands were taken without paying any consideration. General Wooster, of Connecticut, soon arrived at Oyster Pond, from New York, with four hundred troops, who took the stock that was left on Gardner's and Plumb Islands, and ordered the grain on the Islands to be immediately threshed and carried on to Long Island.

At a very full meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Norwich, legally warned and held in said Norwich, the 6th day of June, 1774. Hon. Jabez Huntington, Moderator.

Voted, We will to the utmost of our abilities, assert and defend the liberties and immunities of British America; and that we will co-operate with our brethren in this and the other colonies, in

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In August, 1775, an express arrived at New London from Black Point, with the news that a British man-of-war was anchored near there, and it was supposed to take off the stock. A detachment of troops, marched immediately for Black Point, but before the party arrived notice was given, that the man-of-war had weighed anchor and put out to sea.

August, 1775. News was received at Hartford, August 28th, that Congress had appointed Col. Samuel Mott, Chief Engineer in the army, under Gen. Schuyler; and that Gen. Washington had appointed Major Thomas Mifflin, Quarter Master General, John Parker, Esq., Assistant Quarter Master General, John Trumbull, Esq., of Connecticut, Major of Brigade, Richard Cary, Esq., Major of Brigade, Edmond Randolph, and George Baylor, Esqrs., Aids-de-Camp, in place of Majors Mifflin and Trumbull promoted.

Hartford, Sept. 4th, 1775. Jonathan Pettibone, colonel of the 18th regiment of militia in this colony, on receiving the notice from the Continental Congress to enlist the one-fourth part of the militia to be in readiness on the shortest notice for service, gave orders to the captains of his regiment to muster their men for said purpose, as minute men. The spirit was so generous in the soldiery, that a number sufficient to form three companies of sixty-eight men each, exclusive of officers, immediately enlisted, chose their officers, soon equipt, and were ready for any expedition on the shortest notice.

On the 28th day of August, 1775, Col. Waterbury's regiment, and a regiment from New York, being about eleven hundred men, embarked from Ticonderoga for the Isle Aux Noix, fourteen miles below St. John's, to fortify, and gain the command of the lake.

such reasonable measures as shall in General Congress, or otherwise, be judged most proper to relieve us from the burthens we now feel, and secure us from greater evils we fear will follow from the principles adopted by the British Parliament respecting the town of Boston.

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In the war against the French, a woman by the name of Huntly, of Connecticut, had thirteen sons, each of them not less than six feet high, in the service, at the same time. A prolific and heroic family.

On the 25th of September, 1775, three wagons from Philadelphia, loaded with cloathing for the American Army passed through Hartford.

*Anecdote of General Putnam.*

During the late French war, when Gen. Amherst was marching across the country of Canada, the army coming to one of the lakes, which they were obliged to pass, found the French had a vessel of 12 guns upon it. He was in great distress; his boats were no match for her; and she alone was capable of sinking his whole army in that situation. While he was pondering what should be done, Putnam came up to him and said General that ship must be taken. Aye, says Amherst, I would give the world if she was taken. I'll take her, says Putnam. Amherst smiled and asked how? Give me some wedges, a beetle, and a few men of my own choice. Amherst could not conceive how an armed vessel, was to be taken by four or five men, a beetle and wedges. However, he granted Putnam's request. When night came Putnam with his materials and men, went in a boat under the vessel's stern, and in an instant drove in the wedges behind the rudder in the little cavity between the rudder and ship and left her. In the morning the sails were seen fluttering about; she was adrift in the middle of the lake; and being presently blown ashore, she was easily taken.

The return made by Gen. Gage to Lord Dartmouth of the battle of Bunker's Hill, was as follows, viz: 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 2 Majors, 7 Captains, 9 Lieutenants, 15 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, 191 Rank and File, killed; 3 Majors, 27 Captains, 32 Lieuten-

Voted, That Capt. Jedediah Huntington, Christopher Leffigwell, Esq., Doct. Theophilus Rodgers, Capt. William Hubbard, and Capt. Joseph Trumbull, be a standing committee for keeping up a correspondence with the towns of this and the neighboring colonies, and that they transmit a copy of these votes to the committee of correspondence for the town of Boston.

Voted very unanimously.

A true copy.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Jr., Town Clerk.

At a town meeting, legally warned and held on Monday, the 13th day of June, 1774, in the town of Preston. Col. Samuel Coit, Moderator.

This meeting, taking into consideration the dangerous situation of the British colonies in North America, from the principles lately adopted by the Parliament of Great Britain, by inflicting pains and penalties on the town of Boston, without a legal trial, or even notice of a fault; and likewise another Act is pending and far advanced for vacating an important part of the

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ants, 8 Ensigns, 40 Sergeants, 12 Drummers, 706 Rank and File wounded.

In October several of Paxton Boys, dressed and painted like Indians arrived in Hartford, being a part of a body of 200 volunteers on their way to Gen. Washington's Head-quarters at Cambridge.

On the 10th of October, 1775, an armed schooner of the Connecticut colony, took into New London a large ship, Barron, master, which she met near Stonington; the ship had on board 8000 bushels of wheat, taken in at Baltimore and had cleared from New York, for Falmouth in England; she met with a gale of wind, was overset and lost her main-mast, and was putting into Stonington; she was taken to Norwich with her cargo.

October, 1775, Wm. Goddard, Esq. was appointed surveyor to the General Post Office of the United colonies, a place similar to the one held by the Hon. Hugh Finly of Quebec; Mr. Goddard came to New London from a tour through the southern colonies; next day went eastward.

Massachusetts Charter, without any pretence of its being forfeited, and without trial, &c., and by sending other acts of said Parliament, all which being carried into execution would render the lives, liberties, and estates of all the inhabitants of said colony, precarious and entirely dependent on the arbitrary will and pleasure of a British Minister of State :

Therefore, Voted, That the Royal Charters of the colonies ought to be maintained, as the only sacred and indissoluble bond of union between the Crown of Great Britain and her colonies.

Voted, That we will join with the towns in this and the neighboring colonies in all reasonable measures as shall be thought best by a General Congress, or other general agreement, to assert and maintain all our rights and privileges, and transmit them inviolate to posterity.

Voted, That if it should be thought best by said Congress, &c., to break off all trade with Great Britain, &c., as the best means to attain said end ; that (although we are not a sea-port town) yet we will cheerfully deny ourselves of all those advantages that arise to us from said trade.

Voted, That Col. Samuel Coit, William Witter, Esq., Mr. John Avery, Jr., John Tyler, Esq., Capt. William Belcher, Samuel Mott, and Benjamin Coit, Esq's., be a committee for keeping up a correspondence with the towns in this and the neighboring colonies.

A true copy.      Attest,

ROGER STERRY, Town Clerk.

At a town meeting legally warned and held in Groton, on Monday the 20th day of June, 1774. William Williams, Esq. Moderator.

This town taking into serious consideration the dangerous situation of the British colonies in North America, respecting sundry acts of the British Parliament, particularly those for shutting up the port of Boston, the metropolis of the province of Massachusetts Bay, and abridging their charter rights, &c., which, if carried into execution, not only deprive us of all our privileges, but render life and liberty very precarious. And as we esteem the inhabitants of Boston, now suffering under the tyranny of said acts of Parliament, and in the common cause of America.

Therefore, Voted, That we will join with the other towns of this colony in such reasonable measures as shall be judged best for the general good, and most likely to obtain redress of our grievances.

Voted, That we esteem a General Congress of all the colonies the only probable method to obtain a uniform plan for the preservation of the whole.

Voted, That if it shall be judged best by said Congress to stop all exports to Great Britain and the West India Islands, and imports from thence, we will most cheerfully acquiesce in their determination; esteeming the benefits arising therefrom, mere trifles, compared with the rights and privileges of America:

Voted, That Messrs. William Ledyard, Thomas Mumford, Benadam Gallup, Esq., Amos Prentice, Charles Eldridge, Jr., Deac. John Hurlburt, and Amos Geer, be a committee to correspond with the committees of the several towns in this and the other British colonies.

A copy of record, examined by

WILLIAM AVERY, Town Clerk.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Lyme, in New London county, by legal notice, convened and held in said Lyme the 20th of June, 1774. Eleazer Mather, Esq., was chosen Moderator of said meeting.

At the same meeting it was voted and Resolved, That we sincerely profess ourselves to be true and loyal subjects of his sacred majesty King George the Third.

Also Voted, &c., That we are heartily concerned for the difficulties attending the town of Boston, in consequence of the late extraordinary measures taken with them by the British Parliament, that affairs appear to us with a threatening aspect on the liberties of all British America.

Also Voted, &c., That we will to the utmost of our abilities, assert and defend the liberties and immunities of British America, and that we will co-operate with our brethren in this and the other colonies, in such reasonable measures as shall in General Congress, or otherwise, be judged most proper to relieve us and our brethren in Boston, from the burdens now felt, and secure us

from the evils we fear will follow from the principles adopted by the British Parliament respecting the town of Boston.

Also Voted, That Eleazer Mather, Esq., Mr. John McCurdy, John Lay, 2d, William Noyes, Esq's., and Mr. Samuel Mather, Jr., be a standing committee for the purpose of keeping up a correspondence with the towns of this and the neighboring colonies ; and that they transmit a copy of these votes to the committee of correspondence for the town of Boston.

A true copy of record, examined by

JOHN LAY, 2d, Reg'r.

At a town meeting held in New London, Monday, the 27th day of June, A. D. 1774. Richard Law, Esq. chosen Moderator.

This town taking into serious consideration the alarming situation of the North American colonies, with regard to divers acts of the British Parliament, for raising a revenue on the subjects of said colonies without their consent, and also a late act of Parliament for blocking up the port of Boston, the metropolis of the province of Massachusetts Bay, a province that has ever afforded its utmost aid to Great Britain and her American dominions : and being advised that divers other acts of Parliament are probably passed since the last mentioned act, whereby their charter privileges will be utterly destroyed, and the inhabitants of said province reduced to a state of abject vassallage, unless relief can be had in the case.

We consider the province of Massachusetts Bay as destined to be the first victim of ministerial tyranny, and after her, the other colonies will share the same fate. It is manifest to us that the design of the British ministry is to reduce North America to slavery, with as much rapidity as possible ; and then exert their utmost efforts against the liberties of Great Britain, and thereby reduce the British empire under the nod of an absolute monarch—whereby property and liberty—civil and religious, will be annihilated, and the life of the subject be at the will of a despot. Therefore we hold it an indispensable duty, both to ourselves and posterity, to exert the powers heaven has endowed us with, to contribute every thing in our power, in a constitutional manner, to avert the calamity hanging over this continent.

And therefore we declare and resolve :

In the First place, we most expressly declare, recognize, and acknowledge His Majesty King George the Third, to be the lawful and rightful King of Great Britain, and all other of his dominions and countries ; and that it is our indispensable duty, as being part of His Majesty's Dominions, always to bear faithful and true allegiance to His Majesty, and him to defend to the utmost of our power, against all attempts upon his person, crown, and dignity.

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**NOTE FOR PRESERVATION.**—Soon after the ratification of the treaty of Paris, by which Great Britain acquired Nova Scotia, Canada, the Isle of Cape Breton, and other islands in the gulf and river St. Lawrence, the ministry announced their intention of quartering troops in America, at the expense of the colonies. They also avowed their determination of raising the revenue, necessary for that purpose, by a duty on foreign sugar, molasses, and stamped paper.

The act of Parliament, imposing the duty on the two first mentioned articles, was passed in 1764, and, though it caused general uneasiness and suspicion, yet the people peaceably submitted ; but the act laying a duty on stamped paper, and making it essential to the validity of all legal and mercantile transactions, passed in the early part of the year 1765, was considered a violation of the British constitution, and an encroachment on British liberty. The right, claimed by Parliament, to tax the colonies without their consent, or even representation, more than the amount demanded, called forth a spontaneous burst of popular indignation. Several of the colonial legislatures animadverted with great severity upon the acts of Parliament, and passed spirited resolutions, asserting the rights of the colonies, and denying the constitutional power of Parliament to tax them without their consent.

The legislature of Massachusetts proposed a Congress of deputies from each colony to deliberate upon the subject, and adopt the proper measures to procure the repeal of the act. On the first Tuesday in October, 1765, twenty-eight deputies from the colonies of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of Delaware, Maryland, and South Carolina, met in the city of New York. The legislatures of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia, were prevented from sending deputies by their governors. This Congress, after recapitulating the grievances complained of, resolved to petition the King and Parliament for their redress. They also recommended to the several colonies to appoint special agents for the same purpose.

In the mean time combinations were formed in several of the colonies for resisting the execution of the law, by compelling the officers, appointed by the crown for the sale of stamped paper, to resign their offices. In the month of August, the effigy of Andrew Oliver, Esq., who had been appointed stamp-master for the colony of Massachusetts, was found hanging on a tree, ever since known by the name of "liberty tree," standing on one of the principal streets in Boston. The following night, a small building, which Mr. Oliver had erected for an office, was pulled down ; the windows of his dwelling house



2d. That the cause of Boston is the common cause of all the North American colonies.

3d. That the preservation of the lives, liberties, and properties of the subjects in North America, depends (under God) on a strict union of all the colonies throughout the continent.

4th. That we earnestly wish for, and will promote all in our power, a General Congress of Commissioners from all the colonies on this continent, to be convened with all possible speed.

broken in, and a part of his furniture destroyed. The next day, he announced his determination of having no agency in the execution of the stamp act.

The same month, Jared Ingersoll, Esq., who had received the appointment of stamp-master in Connecticut, was burnt in effigy at New Haven; but notwithstanding this modest hint to resign his office, he signified his determination to discharge its duties. This annunciation, instead of allaying the indignation of the populace, aroused it to a still higher degree, and prompted them to secure his person, and convey him to Hartford for farther proceedings. The following account of their proceedings is copied from the Connecticut Courant of Sept. 23d, 1765, and does not differ materially from the relation given by Mr. Ingersoll, and published in the Connecticut Gazette of the 27th of the same month, (viz.):

“Last Wednesday afternoon, a large company of able bodied men, came to town (Hartford) on horseback from the eastern part of this government, and informed those who were willing to join them, that they were on their way to New Haven, to demand the stamp-master of this colony to resign his office; that a number of their companions were gone on the lower roads, and that they had all agreed to rendezvous at Branford, the next day, (Thursday) and that they should tarry in town that night; they then dispersed to different parts of the town for lodging. In the evening advice was received, that Mr. Ingersoll was on the road to this place; that he would be in town the next day, and that he intended to apply to the Assembly for protection; and it being conjectured that he might come to town in the night to shun the mob, (who he had heard were on their way to pay him a visit) it was agreed that a watch should patrol the streets all night, to prevent his coming in unnoticed; but they made no discoveries.

“On Thursday morning, the whole body, including a considerable number from this town, (Hartford) set off on their intended expedition, and in about an hour, met Mr. Ingersoll at the lower end of Wethersfield, and let him know their business. He at first refused to comply, but it was insisted upon, that he should resign his office of stamp-master, so disagreeable to his countrymen. After many proposals, he delivered the resignation, mentioned below, which he read himself in the hearing of the whole company; he was then desired to pronounce the words *liberty and property*, three times, which he having done, the whole body gave three huzzas. Mr. Ingersoll then went to a tavern and dined with several of the company; after dinner the company told Mr. Ingersoll, as he was bound to Hartford, they would escort him there; which they did, to the number of about five hundred persons on horseback. After they arrived in town, Mr. Ingersoll again read his resignation in public, when three huzzas more were

5th. That it is our hearty desire said General Congress should, among other of their determinations, resolve to stop all imports and exports to and from Great Britain, and otherwise discontinue trade as they shall see fit. That a General Congress should be annually held on this continent, and in that case point out the method for best effecting so noble a design on which the future happiness of the colonies greatly depends.

6th. That we will religiously abide by the resolves of the General Congress of the united North American colonies.

7th. That the resolves of the General Assembly of this colony, at their session in May last, be recorded at large in the Town Book.

8th. That Richard Law, Esq., Col. Gurdon Saltonstall, Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Maj. Samuel Holden Parsons, and Capt. Guy Richards, be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to correspond with the committees of correspondence in this or any other colony in North America ; and they are hereby directed to

given ; when the whole company immediately dispersed without making the least disturbance."

The following is a copy of Mr. Ingersoll's resignation.

" WETHERSFIELD, Sept. 19th, 1765.

" I do hereby promise, that I will never receive any stamp papers, which may arrive from Europe, in consequence of any act lately passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, nor officiate in any manner as stamp-master, or distributor of stamps within the colony of Connecticut, either directly or indirectly ; and I do hereby notify all the inhabitants of his majesty's colony of Connecticut (notwithstanding the said office, or trust has been committed to me) not to apply to me, ever hereafter, for any such stamped paper, hereby declaring that I do decline said office, and execute these presents of my own free will and accord, without any equivocation, or mental reservation.

" In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand,

" J. INGERSOLL."

" An aged gentleman, of Wethersfield, who was an eye witness, and distinctly remembers the transaction, represents it as being peculiarly pompous and imposing. He says Mr. Ingersoll was a middle aged man, dressed in the full costume of the time—brown coat, buckskin breeches, long boots, bob-tailed wig, and three cornered hat ; that he mounted a stage, which had been prepared for his accommodation, and addressed the multitude with great ease and fluency, and that when he gave up his commission, he threw up his hat and commission, both of which he held in his hand ; they cheered him with great enthusiasm. There were several other out-breakings of indignant feeling in other parts of the colony, but none worthy of particular notice.

transmit a copy of these resolves to the committee of correspondence in Boston ; and that any three of the above said committee be a quorum.

A true copy of record, examined by

GURDON SALTONSTALL, Recorder.

NOTE.—The following song shews the spirit of the Americans, previous to the war.

COMPOSED BY A SON OF LIBERTY.

[Written Feb. 13th, 1770.]

TUNE—THE “BRITISH GREENADIER.”

That seat of science, Athens, and earth's great mistress, Rome—  
Where now are all their glories?—we scarce can find their tomb!  
Then guard your rights, AMERICANS! nor stoop to lawless sway:—  
Oppose, oppose, oppose, oppose—my brave America!

Proud Albion bow'd to Cæsar, and num'rous lords before—  
To Picts, to Danes, to Normans, and many masters more:  
But we can boast, Americans, we never fell a prey!—  
Huzza, huzza, huzza, huzza, for brave America!

We led fair Freedom hither, and lo! the desert smil'd!  
A Paradise of pleasure was open in the wild:  
Your harvest, bold Americans—no power shall snatch away!—  
Assert yourselves, yourselves—ye sons of brave America!

Torn from a world of tyrants, beneath this western sky  
We formed a new Dominion—a land of liberty:  
The world shall own their masters here—then hasten on the day—  
Huzza, huzza, huzza, huzza, for brave America!

God bless this maiden climate! and through her vast domain,  
Let hosts of heroes cluster, who scorn to wear a chain;  
And blast the venal sycophants, who dare our rights betray—  
Preserve, preserve, preserve, preserve my brave America!

Lift up your heads my heroes! and swear with proud disdain,  
The wretch who would enslave you, shall spread his snares in vain!  
Should Europe empty all her force, we'd meet them in array,—  
And shout, and shout, and fight, and fight for brave America!

Some future day shall crown us the masters of the main,  
And giving laws and freedom to England, France, and Spain:  
When all the isles o'er Ocean spread, shall tremble and obey  
Their lords, their lords, their lords, their lords of brave America!

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Windham, legally warned and held in Windham, June 23d, 1774. Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq., Moderator.

This meeting being impressed with a deep sense of the present alarming aspects of Divine Providence over the British colonies in North America, arising from the present depressed situation and condition of the capital of a neighboring province, in having their harbor and port blocked up by ships-of-war, in hostile array, to the terror of the people, totally and actually obstructing all commerce by sea into or from said port, thereby forcibly preventing the due performance of all private maritime contracts, rendering useless their whole navigation, stores, and wharves, built and erected at a vast expense by the inhabitants; a principle which threatens ruin and destruction both to the liberties and properties of every subject throughout the British empire.

And being further alarmed by a bill late depending before the Parliament of Great Britain, for regulating the government of the Massachusetts Bay, too long to be here recited, though replete with arbitrary, threatening resolutions, threatening destruction to all corporations in Great Britain, and all chartered rights in America. In view of these, as well as many other impending dangers and calamities, and from a firm belief and persuasion that there is a supreme, almighty, infinitely good and merciful Being, who sits at the helm of universal nature, by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, and who has the hearts of all princes and potentates of the earth in his hands, and under his almighty control; and however faulty the instruments and procurers of those calamities may be, yet, considering our sins and impieties, they are just as coming from the hand of God, and are to be averted by humiliation, deep repentance, and reformation. We therefore sincerely wish and hope a day may be set apart for solemn fasting and prayer, as recommended by our late General Assembly; and beg further to intimate to our brethren in the several towns in this colony, to render the observation of that day more agreeable to the divine direction, (viz: to undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free, to distribute to the necessities of the distressed,) that on that day we be united in opening our hearts in contributing to the relief of the injured and oppressed indigent inhabitants of the town of Boston, es-

pecially those who are now more immediately so, by means of the late iron hand of oppression on that worthy metropolis.

But fully to express our sense of the late attempts upon the town and port of Boston, the arbitrary attacks on the most sacred rights of communities, the violent depredations on private property and liberty, and those more virulent efforts to break down the great barriers of civil society, founded on the solemn compact of kings ; a principle proclaiming sudden destruction upon all corporations throughout the British dominions, at the will and pleasure of a vengeful British ministry, even without complaint, notice, trial, or constitutional adjudication or forfeiture, words fail, and the English language is deficient. But this is in part executed, and much more than threatened, only under the pretence at most, that some of the inhabitants of Boston, or the neighboring towns, have committed a trespass on the property of the East India Company, a company (*horrendum dictu !*) who have spread destruction over the eastern world ! Behold the tragic scenes in that eastern clime ! the murders of millions, by sword and baneful famine ; depriving those innocents of the necessaries of life, who by the favor of heaven and their own industry, were overflowing with the wealth and profusion of the Indias, and all to satisfy the insatiable lust of gain and oppression ! Let the Spanish barbarities in Mexico, and the name of a Cortez, sink in everlasting oblivion, while such more recent superior cruelties bear away the palm in the late annals of their rapine and cruelty ; though many worthy individuals of that body ought, no doubt to be excused from the general imputation. We applaud the solemnity of the noble Virginians and Philadelphians, in their religious observations of that memorable first day of June ; we approve their opinions and sentiments as to the threatened calamities and dangers impending America ; as also the Maryland resolves, with the others by many worthy towns and bodies of people in this and neighboring provinces. We only wish there may be no delay in appointing time and place for a General Congress, which only can give union, firmness, and stability to the whole. We impatiently wait for injured Boston to give the lead in that appointment. Providence, no doubt has put into our hands the means to work out our temporal salvation, which has been repeatedly suggested. Let us, dear fellow Americans, for a few years at least, abandon that narrow, contracted

principle of self-love, which is the source of every vice ; let us once feel for our country and posterity ; let our hearts expand and dilate with the noble and generous sentiments of benevolence, though attended with the severer virtue of self-denial. The blessings of heaven attending, America is saved ; children yet unborn will rise and call you blessed ; the present generation will, by future—to the latest period of American glory, be extolled and celebrated as the happy instruments, under God, of delivering millions from thralldom and slavery, and secure permanent freedom and liberty to America.

We cannot close this meeting, without expressing our utmost abhorrence and detestation of those few in a devoted province, styling themselves ministers, merchants, barristers, and attorneys, who have, against the sense and opinion of the rest of that respectable government, as also of the vast extended continent, distinguished themselves, in their late fawning, adulating addresses to Governor Hutchinson, the scourge of the province which gave him birth, and the pest of America. His principles and conduct, (evidenced by his letters, and those under his approbation) are so replete with treason against his country, and the meanness of self-exaltation, as cannot be palliated by art, nor disguised by subtilty. In general, we esteem those addresses a high-handed insult on the town of Boston, and the province of Massachusetts Bay in particular, and on all the American colonies in general. Those styled merchants may plead their profound ignorance of the constitutional rights of Englishmen, as an excuse in some degree ; but for those who style themselves barristers and attorneys, they have either assumed a false character, or they must in some measure be acquainted with the constitutional rights of Englishmen, and those of their own province—for them to present such an address, is a daring affront to common sense, a high insult on all others of the profession, and treason against law ; and from that learned profession, (who are supposed to be well acquainted with the English constitution, and have the best means, and are under the greatest advantages to defend the rights of the subject, and who have been famed as the great supporters of English liberty,) for any of them to make a sacrifice of ALL to their pagod of vanity, and fulsome adulation, is mean, vile, and unpardonable, and cannot be accounted for upon any other principles, but those of their master, who would sacrifice his country, to be-

come the independent head of a respectable province ; and the few leaders of this infamous law-band, would, it seems, give their aid and support therein, to obtain the first places in his new kingdom. The addressing clergy, we leave to the reproaches of their own consciences, but lament to find that they are the first in the ignominious homage of their idol.

The foregoing is a true copy of record,

Test,

SAMUEL GRAY, Town Clerk.

At a very full meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Farmington, legally warned and held in said Farmington, the 15th day of June, A. D. 1774. Col. John Strong, Moderator.

Voted, That the act of Parliament for blocking up the port of Boston, is an invasion of the rights and privileges of every American, and as such are determined to oppose the same, together with all other such arbitrary and tyrannical acts, in every suitable way and manner that may be adopted in General Congress, to the intent we may be instrumental of securing, and transmitting our rights and privileges inviolate to the latest posterity.

. That the fate of American freedom depends greatly upon the inhabitants of the town of Boston, in the present alarming crisis of public affairs :—We therefore entreat them by every thing that is dear and sacred, to persevere with unremitted vigilance and resolution, till their labors shall be crowned with the desired success.

That, as many of the inhabitants of the town of Boston, must, in a short time, be reduced to the utmost distress, in consequence of their Port Bill, we deem it our indispensable duty, by every proper and effectual method, to assist in affording them speedy relief. In pursuance of which, a committee was appointed with all convenient speed, to take in subscriptions of wheat, rye, Indian corn, and other provisions, of the inhabitants of this town, and to collect and transport the same to the town of Boston, there to be delivered to the selectmen of said town, to be by them distributed at their discretion, to those who are incapacitated from procuring a necessary subsistence, in consequence of the late oppressive measures of administration.

That William Judd, Fisher Gay, Selah Hart, and Stephen Hotchkiss, Esq'rs., Messrs. John Treadwell, Asahel Wadsworth,



Jonathan Root, Samuel Smith, Ichabod Norton, Noadiah Hooker, and Gad Stanley, be, and are hereby appointed a committee to keep a correspondence with the towns of this, and the neighboring colonies ; and that they forthwith transmit a copy of the votes of this meeting to the committee of correspondence for the town of Boston, and also to cause the same to be made public.

Certified, per

SOLOMON WHITMAN, Town Clerk.

At a town meeting, legally warned and held at Wethersfield, in Connecticut, on the 17th June, 1774.

The resolutions of the honorable House of Représentatives, by them come into, at their session at Hartford, in May last, being read, were unanimously approved of, and ordered to be entered at large on the records of the town, as being expressive of the sentiments of the inhabitants on the important subjects to which they refer, and proper to be transmitted to future times, in such a manner that all may have access to them on every proper occasion.

The extreme distress to which our brethren of Boston are reduced by the merciless arm of tyranny, was then brought under consideration—and,

Voted and Resolved, That this town do consider the inhabitants of Boston to be now suffering for the common cause of American liberty, and that we are bound in common justice, as well as by the early ties of friendship between our ancestors, when despising every other hardship and danger, they fled from tyranny, civil and religious, to this continent, then a savage wilderness, and here erected a standard of liberty, as well as by the common laws of humanity, to afford them all the assistance in our power, both by our advice and counsel, as well as by giving them part of that substance which God hath blessed us with from time to time, as their necessities shall require.

This town being informed that a Congress of the colonies is proposed, and likely to take place soon, do hereby approve of it as a necessary and salutary measure, when we hope and trust, a general non-importation and non-exportation agreement will be come into, and take place in the colonies. But to the deliberations of so respectable a body, and to their superior wisdom,



submit what measures are proper, at so alarming and critical a period as this, in which nothing less is attacked than the lives and liberties of all the free born inhabitants of British America. Most cheerfully engaging, to the utmost of our power and influence, to come into and promote that universal similarity of sentiment and proceeding, on which (under God) our ALL, in life, and every agreeable prospect for posterity, is depending. And in order to afford reasonable relief to those in said town of Boston, who may more immediately suffer by the present measures, a contribution was recommended, and a large committee, of the most respectable inhabitants appointed to receive subscriptions in wheat, or other provisions, or money, and the same to be transmitted to the selectmen of the town of Boston, or such other persons as the said town of Boston shall appoint to receive the same.

N. B. We have the pleasure to inform the public, that although this subscription was opened but on Friday last, it has already become almost universal in said town, and that considerable wheat, &c., is already collected.

At a very full meeting of the respectable inhabitants of the town of Hartford, convened at the court house, on the 20th day of June, A. D. 1774. John Pitkin, Esq., Chairman.

This meeting with hearts filled with loyalty, duty, and obedience to our rightful sovereign, King George the Third, and with the most poignant grief at the gloomy situation the affairs of Great Britain and her colonies are like to be thrown into by the unconstitutional claim of the British Parliament to impose duties and taxes on the Americans without their consent; do think themselves obliged, by all the ties which ever ought to preserve a firm union amongst Americans, as speedily as possible, to make known their sentiments to their distressed brethren of Boston; and therefore do firmly resolve and declare,

That they look upon the cause of Boston, in its consequences, to be the common cause of America.

That the measures now pursuing against Boston, and the Massachusetts Bay, appear to them an innovation of their natural rights as men, and constitutional rights as English subjects; and,

if not removed, will be a foundation for the utter destruction of American freedom.

That all legal and constitutional means ought to be used by all America, for procuring a removal of the same.

That the only effectual means for obtaining such removal, they are at present of opinion, is an association, under the strongest ties, for breaking off such commercial connections with Great Britain, as shall be generally agreed upon, until American freedom be asserted and settled upon a permanent and constitutional foundation.

That the most practicable mode of forming such an effectual association, they conceive, will be a General Congress, to be appointed from the several colonies.

That in the mean time, they will forthwith freely contribute, each one, a proportion of his substance, for the relief of the poor of Boston, in their present distress.

That Thomas Seymour, Elisha Pitkin, Jesse Root, George Pitkin, Isaac Sheldon, Samuel Wyllys, Caleb Bull, and Abijah Colton, be a committee of correspondence to receive and answer all letters, and to promote and forward such contributions that may be made in this town, so as to answer the purposes for which the same are designed, and that any five of the number have power to act.

Signed by order,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Clerk.

At a very full meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Woodstock, legally warned and held at said Woodstock, on the 21st day of June, A. D. 1774. Nathaniel Childs, Esq., was chosen Moderator.

The resolves of the House of Representatives of this colony in May, 1774, were read, and then voted unanimously—

1st. That the thanks of this town be given to Capt. Elisha Child, and Jedediah Morse, Esq., the representatives of this corporate body, for their consenting to, and voting the above resolves in conjunction with the other representatives of this colony, in General Court assembled,—as said resolves do honor to the worthy representatives of a free, loyal, and virtuous people, are very expressive of the sentiments of the inhabitants of this town, and by them judged necessary in such a day as this, when

we have the most convincing proofs of a fixed and determined plan of the British administration, to overthrow the liberties of America, and subject these colonies to a bondage, that our fathers did not, would not,—fled into the wilderness that they might not, and God grant that we, their posterity, never may—bear.

2dly. Being animated from the consideration of the absolute importance of adopting every rational and probable means in our power for the political salvation of our country; we engage to contribute our utmost exertions in defence of our American liberties and privileges, and stand ready to join our brethren in this and the other American colonies, in every probable measure that may influence Great Britain to withdraw her oppressive hand. At the same time we apprehend that a General Congress, consisting of delegates from each colony on the continent, is necessary, speedily to be formed, that the sentiments of the whole may be known, and such an unity in measures established, as may constitute a strength invincible by tyranny, and break out in one general burst against the attempts that are made, and making, to destroy the constitution of these governments.

3dly. And inasmuch as the promotion of industry, frugality, economy, arts and manufactures among ourselves, is of great importance to the good of a community; we determine, from this very day, to live as much within ourselves, and purchase as few British goods, wares, and merchandises, as possible, and give all due encouragement to every useful art among us.

4thly. It having been judged needful at this alarming crisis, and generally come into, that committees of correspondence be appointed, &c.

Voted, That Capt. Elisha Child, Charles C. Chandler, Jedediah Morse, Esq'rs., Capt. Samuel McClellan, and Nathaniel Child, Esq., be a committee for maintaining a correspondence with the towns of this and the neighboring colonies.

5thly. Voted, That a copy of these votes be printed in the New London Gazette, to manifest the deep sense we have of the Parliamentary invasion of the constitutional rights of the British Americans. A true copy.

Attest,

ELISHA CHILD, Town Clerk.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Pomfret, legally warned and assembled on the 23d day of June, A. D. 1774. Col. Ebenezer Williams, Moderator.

The present situation of the American colonies and plantations, on account of the measures pursued by the Parliament of Great Britain respecting them, has become of so much importance, and of so serious a nature, that it calls aloud for the sentiments of every town and even every individual, to be known and communicated. We therefore hereby assure our brethren, that we will to the utmost of our abilities, contribute to the maintaining and supporting of our just rights and privileges, and to the removal of those evils already come upon us, and more particularly felt by the town of Boston, viewing them as the more immediate sufferers, yet that our liberties and privileges are all thereby threatened and endangered.

We do therefore Resolve to this important end, we will unite in the necessary measures that may be adopted, and more particularly pointed out at the proposed General Congress, which we pray may be hastened—the several dissolutions of Houses of Assemblies by their Governors, to prevent the same, notwithstanding. And in the mean time, we cannot refrain from adding, we will exert ourselves in promoting and encouraging useful and necessary manufactures, and such a spirit of economy and frugality among ourselves, as may prevent much of our present demands for British manufactures.

And do Resolve, That every person who shall hereafter send for, and import any British manufactures from Great Britain, or trade or deal with any who shall do so, until the loyal subjects of America are restored to, and can enjoy their just rights and privileges, shall be deemed and treated by us an ungrateful enemy to America, and with such person or persons we will have no commerce or deal.

The town then proceeded to and made choice of Ebenezer Williams, Thomas Williams, and Samuel Craft, Esq's., as their committee to correspond with the committees of correspondence in this, or the neighboring colonies, from time to time, as shall be thought necessary. A true copy of the original.

Attest,

GEORGE SUMNER, Town Clerk.

A meeting of the respectable inhabitants of Middletown, in Hartford county, was called, and held in said town, on the 15th day of June, 1774, when there was assembled more than five hundred of said inhabitants, and the Hon. Jabez Hamlin, being chosen chairman, they unanimously came into the following Resolves, viz :

1st. That we will heartily concur in any salutary measures that may or shall be devised and come into, or recommended by a General Congress, from all or most of the colonies, or by the greater places of trade and commerce on the continent, or by the inhabitants of this colony, for the preservation of the rights of British Americans.

2d. That Messrs. Matthew Talcott, Richard Alsop, and Titus Hosmer, be our committee of correspondence, whose duty it shall be to collect all such intelligence as may be necessary to enable us to act our part presently, and to good effect in the system of America ; to communicate such intelligence to others as may be useful to them, and the common cause, and in our behalf, to co-operate with the committees of other towns in this colony, in concerting or executing any general plan of proceeding for the good of the whole.

Certified by

TITUS HOSMER, Clerk.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Glastenbury, on the 23d day of June, A. D. 1774. Col. Elizur Talcott, Chairman.

Voted, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the act of Parliament imposing a duty on tea exported to America, for the purpose of raising a revenue, is subversive of the rights and liberties of the British Americans, unconstitutional and oppressive. And we consider the late act of Parliament for blocking up the port of Boston, and others that are pending with respect to the province of Massachusetts Bay, designed not only to enslave that province, but as we all hold our liberties and privileges on the same footing with them, we consider those acts as aimed at the liberties of all the English colonies in America.

We, therefore, are resolved to exert ourselves to the utmost of our power, in every lawful way, to oppose, resist, and if possible, defeat the designs of our enemies to enslave us. And we

are of opinion, that the safest and most effectual method to obtain a repeal of those acts, and to restore us to the enjoyment of our rights and privileges, will be an universal agreement of all the colonies, that all commercial connections with Great Britain and the West Indies be withheld. And as we are informed that a General Congress of all the colonies is proposed, we are of opinion that such a Congress would be very expedient, and that is the most probable method to cement the colonies together in a firm union, on which (under God) our only security depends. And when this Congress shall convene (which we hope will be as soon as possible) we shall be ready to adopt any measures which shall be thought by them to be the most effectual to obtain relief from the burdens of which we justly complain.

Voted, That Col. Elizur Talcott, William Welles, Ebenezer Plummer, Isaac Mosely, Thomas Kimberley, Josiah Hale, and Capt. Elisha Hollister, be a committee of correspondence, to receive and answer all letters, and to promote and forward such contributions as shall be made in this town, for the relief of our distressed friends in Boston, and that they transmit a copy of the proceedings of this meeting to the committee of correspondence at Boston, as soon as possible.

A true copy. Test,

WILLIAM WELLES, Clerk.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Lebanon, legally warned and holden the 18th of July, A. D. 1774, on account of the most alarming and dangerous situation of American liberties, occasioned by the all-grasping claim of the Parliament of Great Britain to tax the colonies, and bind them by their acts in all cases whatsoever; and to consider what we ought to do for the relief of Boston, suffering the bitter effects of those claims, first carrying into dreadful execution on them by several late acts, &c.

Present about three hundred respectable freeholders.

At the desire of the selectmen, a discourse well adapted to the important occasion, was previously delivered by the Rev. Dr. Williams, from Luke, chap. iii., verses 2, 3.

Col. William Williams, Moderator.

The town having taken the matters aforesaid into their serious consideration, are of opinion—That the controversy now subsisting between the Parliament of Great Britain and the English American colonies, respecting the rights and liberties of the latter, is a matter and cause of the most important and interesting nature, that can affect our minds, next to our own everlasting welfare. We do therefore,

In the First place, with humble gratitude and reverence, this day again acknowledge, recognize, and adore the marvellous loving kindness of the Lord our God, who inspired our ancestors with resolution and fortitude to forsake their native land, where they could not enjoy civil and religious liberty, to explore and settle a new world, and supported them through a painful and distressing variety of perils and hardships, too many to be recounted, and enabled them to accomplish a happy settlement in this now fruitful land, to plant his Gospel here, and in the course of his providence, granted them great and important liberties, civil and religious; which, by his goodness, and the pious care of our fathers, are transmitted to us, their children. And we do also, with pious and affectionate gratitude, call up the dear remembrance of our excellent and renowned forefathers, who with incredible labor, obtained, and transmitted to us the precious rights and liberties we have enjoyed, and resolve to imitate their example and virtues; and in humble confidence that our God will not yet forsake us, though our iniquities testify against us, yet trusting in his mercy, we believe it to be his command, and our indispensable duty to him, to ourselves and posterity, to stand fast in the liberty wherewith he has made us free. We do therefore,

2dly. Profess, testify, and declare it to be our firm and unshaken opinion and belief, that the claim of this and the other colonies to all the rights, immunities, and privileges of free and natural English subjects, born within the realm of England, being founded on compact, grants, stipulations, and charters from the rightful kings of England, by them and their successors recognized, and by us long enjoyed; is a claim founded also in the laws and rights of nature, in the highest principles of justice and equity, and on the only foundation principles of legal government; and is therefore a just, valid, and effectual claim, and that in which all that is valuable and dear to us in this world, is



embraced and comprehended ; and as such we will ever consider, and to the utmost of our power defend and support it.

3dly. That the late act of Parliament for blocking up the port and harbor of Boston, thereby depriving them of the only means of their subsistence ; and the two more recent ones, essentially violating the charter rights of the Massachusetts Bay, and making material alterations in the mode and administration of government, and justice therein, is an axe laid to the root of the tree, and in direct opposition to, and utterly subversive of this and every claim and idea of liberty and property in English America.

4thly. That therefore the cause of Boston and the Massachusetts Bay, is the common cause of all the English American colonies.

5thly. That forasmuch as we assume not wisdom enough to prescribe ways and means to avoid the dreadful evils comprised in said acts, and the principles on which they are founded ; nor can they be averted but by the joint act and approbation of the whole ; we therefore ardently approve of, and rejoice in the proposal of a General Congress of commissioners from all the colonies ; from whose joint wisdom, integrity, and virtue, we have the strongest hopes a sure foundation will be laid for the restoration and security of the just and precious privileges of the millions of America ; and to their wisdom and prudence, we do for the present, so far as to us appertains, cheerfully refer the all important cause. And if they should think proper to come into a joint agreement to break off all commercial intercourse with Great Britain and the West Indies, except for the necessaries of life, (if such there be included in it) until American liberties are restored and placed on a solid basis ; we will most cheerfully acquiesce in, and inviolably adhere to such agreement, as a measure most likely (in our opinion) to effect that grand and important design.

6thly. In contradiction to the infamous slanders and lies spread by wicked and designing men, and which have prejudiced the mind of our king, that the people of the colonies are “ factious and rebellious, aim at total independence,” &c., we declare it to be our steadfast design and fixed resolution to maintain our duty and loyalty to the king, and delight in a constitutional dependence on the crown of Great Britain ; and that nothing but a persevering design to deprive us of the freedom which we have



earned, to which we are entitled by every principle of justice, for which we have solemnly compacted with our king, which our God has given us to possess, and to which, by his favor, we are born, can ever render us willing to become thus independent.

7thly. That in our opinion, Boston, the capital town of New England, is first made to suffer the almost unparalleled hardship and distress aforesaid, not so much on account of the destruction of East India tea in their harbor, as for their having been ever forward and resolute in defence of their, and the common rights of the colonies ; and we are the more grounded in this opinion, as it is most notorious that they used their utmost endeavors in a variety of ways, to accomplish the safe return of the aforesaid tea to the owners, and that all their endeavors for that purpose were effectually defeated by the power and authority of the late Governor Hutchinson, and the commissioners of the customs.

8thly. That forasmuch as this town is resolved to contend earnestly for liberty and property, and are not willing that either should be violated, even in the hands of our enemies; and as the aforesaid tea in the harbor of Boston, fell a just and necessary sacrifice in defence of both, it is the opinion of this town, that the proprietors of it, (base as they are in becoming the tools of oppression) ought to be indemnified therefor by the aforesaid Governor Hutchinson, and the commissioners of the customs, whose joint and successful efforts to prevent its return to them was the cause, without which it had never been destroyed.

9thly. That all those persons of what class or denomination soever, who have lately paid servile adulation to the aforesaid Governor Hutchinson on his departure to Great Britain ; and in their addresses complimented him for his attachment to the interest of his country, the wisdom and faithfulness of his administration, &c. ; have thereby counteracted the united voice and sense of their whole legislature, strengthened and increased the credit and influence of the said Governor with the King and Parliament of Great Britain, which we have reason to believe has been and will be exerted to injure and oppress his country, and have therefore forfeited the confidence of their countrymen, and ought to be treated by <sup>ALL</sup> with the utmost neglect and contempt.

10thly. That in the opinion of this town, it is of the utmost importance that the town of Boston, and province aforesaid,

should be encouraged and enabled to hold out against, and steadfastly resist this most violent attack upon our common liberties, until redress can be obtained ; and therefore, that it is the duty of every inhabitant of this town to contribute according to his circumstances and ability, to the relief of those poor and distressed inhabitants of said Boston, who are least able to support their families, while all means of acquiring subsistence are taken away, and business stagnated by the cruel act for blocking up their harbor ; and that subscriptions be opened for that purpose, and that the selectmen be a committee to receive the charitable donations of such as are disposed to contribute to the relief of those of our brethren in Boston, suffering as aforesaid ; and the same in the most prudent way remit to the selectmen of said Boston, or to the overseers of the poor therein, to be improved accordingly.

11thly. That Col. William Williams, Mr. Jonathan Trumbull, Jr., Joshua West, Esq., Benjamin Bill, Esq., John Clark, Esq., and Mr. Pelatiah Marsh, be a committee to maintain a correspondence with the towns in this, and the neighboring colonies, as occasion shall require, on the interesting and important matters respecting the liberties of our country.

The foregoing draft of resolutions being repeatedly read, and maturely considered, were passed as the opinion, act, and resolves of said town without one dissentient voice, and ordered to be entered on the records of this town, and inserted in the New London Gazette.

Attest,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, JR., Clerk.

At a meeting of delegates of the towns in the counties of New London and Windham, convened at Norwich, the 8th day of September, 1774, to consult for their common safety, &c. Hon. Gurdon Saltonstall, Chairman ; Col. Wm. Williams, Clerk.

This convention, taking into their serious consideration, the present state of this country, in that we are threatened with the loss of our liberties and constitutional rights, &c. And when we view its state, as to arms, military knowledge, proper stores, and the attention of this people to their just defence, whenever it shall so happen that any common enemy shall rise against us, and attempt our subjection by force of arms, we cannot but be

animated to address ourselves to all whose business it is to attend upon military affairs.

And in the First place, we do seriously recommend to the selectmen of every town, within the counties of New London and Windham, that as speedily as possible, they supply their town stock with a full complement of ammunition and military stores, as by law is required.

2dly. We recommend earnestly to every particular troop and military company within said two counties, both officers and soldiers, and all others living within their several and respective limits, who by law are required to provide and keep arms and ammunition, as speedily as possible to arm and equip themselves, agreeable to the directions of the laws of this colony, (excepting where in arms it may be thought expedient to vary, that such variation be uniformly adopted.)

3dly. We seriously recommend it to all such, as a matter of very great importance, that they, as expeditiously as may be, improve in, and learn the use and design of their arms, by artillery exercises or otherwise, that so they may answer the important purpose of their instruction, when occasion shall require, and become fitted to attend their colonel, and other field officers, when by them called to regimental reviews.

And, as every great and special advantage must arise from regimental reviews and exercises in the militia of this colony, at least as often as once in four years, as the law requires, and the same having been omitted and neglected, we now earnestly recommend to every colonel and other the field officers of each regiment within the two counties, that on some proper day or days, the present autumn, they call together their several and respective regiments, or such parts of them as shall be convenient, at some suitable and appointed places for the purposes above mentioned. And would also further recommend to the colonel or chief officer of each regiment in said two counties, that they forthwith issue their orders to the captains of the several companies in their respective regiments, that they and their companies immediately comply with the requisitions of the laws of this colony, both as to their equipment with arms and ammunition, &c., and a due attention to the cultivation of military skill and the art of war; and that said chief officers exert themselves in every proper and legal way, in their import-

ant department, for a general improvement in, and cultivation of the noble and important art of military skill and discipline.

Voted and passed unanimously.

Test,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Town Clerk.

At a legal town meeting, held in Coventry, August 15; continued, by adjournment, September 15, 1774. Phineas Strong, Esq., Moderator.

Justly alarmed from a consideration of the gloomy aspect which threatens the subversion of American liberty, from the late attempts of the British Parliament, to tax the Americans without their voice or consent; the subsequent acts to carry their measures into execution, relative to the towns of Boston and Charlestown, and the province of the Massachusetts Bay; vacating an essential part of their charter right, and depriving them of the use of private property; condemning them without a hearing or legal trial; and by coercive measures, and military force, to distress and dragoon into a compliance with the arbitrary will of the British ministry; the establishment of arbitrary government, and the Popish religion in a neighboring province, contrary to the late Act of settlement for the limitations of the Crown in the Protestant line. Which measures, we are hereby of opinion are a manifest infringement upon natural right, and subversive of the constitution, as founded in compact, stipulation, and charter, and as ever peaceably enjoyed under the late auspicious reigns of his present Majesty's most glorious ancestors.

This meeting, apprehending that unity of sentiment and measures, in every constitutional way, is the most probable method to obtain a redress of those grievances we feel, and to avert those we fear: Do cordially acquiesce in the general sentiment of a non-importation, non-exportation and non-consumption agreement, until our rights shall be restored; highly approving of the well-concerted measures of a General Congress, in whose wisdom we will confide, and in whose determinations we will cheerfully acquiesce; humbly imploring wisdom from above to direct them in their consultations and determinations for the general good; gratefully acknowledging the favorable omens of Providence, in that happy unity, propitious plenty, sympathetic charity, noble fortitude, and manly resistance of despotism, universal through-

out America. We beg leave to recommend mutual prudence and caution, whilst we are opposing, to the utmost of our power, the execution of arbitrary laws and tyrannical government.—That it is our duty, and we will religiously observe and carefully adhere to the good and wholesome laws of our own land ; afford our aid and assistance to the magistrates thereof, and, to the utmost of our power, maintain and preserve order and government amongst ourselves. Whilst we view with grief and detestation those unnatural enemies of our constitution, from amongst ourselves ; those vile *anathemas*, who from motives selfish or servile, to court arbitrary promotion, or servilely to cringe to despotic sway, are affording their aid and assistance to, and co-operating with, the ministerial tools of arbitrary power ; are unworthy of that friendship and esteem which constitutes the bond of social happiness, and ought to be treated with contempt, and a total neglect ; whilst we applaud the fortitude of our suffering brethren, and feel ourselves charitably inclined, and have appointed a committee to take in subscriptions for their relief. And judging it expedient, and being desirous of keeping up a mutual correspondence with the towns of this and the neighboring governments,—do appoint Ephraim Root, Esq., Capt. Ebenezer Kingsbury, Doct. John Crocker, Capt. Elias Buell, and Mr. William Wilson, a committee of correspondence, for the purpose aforesaid.

The foregoing is a true copy of record, passed unanimously, and ordered to be entered on the records of the town, and inserted in the New London Gazette.

Attest,

NOAH PORTER, Clerk.

At a meeting of delegates from the towns in the counties of Hartford, New London, and Windham, and part of the county of Litchfield, held at Hartford, on the 15th of September, 1774. William Wolcott, Esq., Chairman ; and Capt. Samuel Wyllys, Clerk.

This meeting, taking into their serious consideration the absolute necessity of a non-consumption agreement, being entered into by the consumers, in order to support, and render permanent, such non-importation agreement as shall be recommended

by the General Congress of delegates from all the free British colonies in America, now convened at Philadelphia; and also, that their opinion and resolution thereon hath not been yet fully made known to the delegates from this colony in said Congress:

Do Declare and Resolve, That in case the said General Congress shall recommend a non-importation of British goods only, or of British and West India goods, we will enter into a solemn contract and agreement, not to purchase or consume any article that shall be prohibited by such non-importation agreement, and to use our utmost endeavors to render the same general and effectual; and do hereby make known, that we have in general been assured by the towns we represent, that they will readily accede to, adopt, and religiously observe such non-consumption agreement as aforesaid. And whereas this meeting is informed, that great quantities of English and India goods are ordered by sundry sordid and avaricious men in our neighboring colonies, to be purchased in England, and imported this fall, to give them an unreasonable advantage, and prevent the salutary effects of a non-importation agreement:

Resolved, That such mercenary wretches, whose avarice can seek for gratification in the distress and ruin of their country, are wholly unworthy of our confidence, friendship, or support; and that our non-consumption agreement may be useful to any good purpose, we will not purchase any merchandise of them, or transact any business for them, or suffer them to transact any for us, but will wholly withdraw from them, and leave them to the consolation of possessing, and contemplating the curious monuments of British industry, and American slavery, which they would so greedily amass to themselves, for such sordid, wicked purposes; and shall consider in the same light, and treat in the same manner, every person that shall purchase any such goods of them, or do business for them, or employ them in their business.

Resolved, That the committees of correspondence for the several towns we represent, be desired to make diligent enquiry after the persons who have ordered goods as aforesaid, and inform the next county and colony meeting, of what they may discover, that their names may be published, their conduct exposed, and their persons avoided.

Resolved, That if any merchant, or traders in the towns aforesaid, shall attempt to engross any great or unusual quantity of

goods, with design to forestall and elude a non-importation agreement, we will find ways and means, without violating his private rights, to defeat his views, and make him sensible that virtue and public spirit will be more for his interest than low selfishness and avarice can be. These measures, dictated by necessity, we enter upon for the preservation of our liberties which we have received from our Creator, and may not resign, or suffer to be ravished from us; at the same time, it is the warmest wish of our hearts, that the wisdom and equity of the British Parliament may relieve us from our fears and dangers, and that we may once more and forever, look up to our parent country with confidence and pleasure, and secure our own rights, contribute all in our power to promote the honor, interest, and happiness of our elder brethren in Great Britain. And,

Whereas we cannot yet be advised what measures the General Congress will recommend, and therefore are at present unable to adjust the particulars of a non-consumption agreement, we think it may be of use to the merchants and traders in the aforesaid towns, to be made acquainted with our resolutions aforesaid, and that we determine in proper time to carry them into execution.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the committee of correspondence, for the town of Hartford, for their care and attention to the interest of the public in calling this meeting; and that they be desired to call a colony meeting at a suitable time and place, to finish the business now begun and entered upon, taking the advice of the committees of correspondence for the towns of Windsor, Wethersfield, and Middletown therein.

The inhabitants of many towns in the colony, viz. :—Plainfield, East Haddam, Enfield, Bolton, Stonington, Colchester, Haddam, Ashford, Tolland, Coventry, and others, held similar meetings, and passed patriotic resolves in favor of sustaining Massachusetts, in her oppressed situation by the crown.



## CONNECTICUT, AND THE CAMPAIGN OF 1776.

**THE** campaign of 1776, was one of the most interesting periods of the revolutionary war. It commenced under the most prosperous and favorable circumstances to the American cause, and was full of extraordinary and exciting incidents. The successful resistance made to the arms of Great Britain in 1775; the high reputation which the Bunker Hill battle had given to the American militia, and the final expulsion of the British from Boston, had raised the highest expectations of success among the American people—who had gained from the past more confidence than wisdom, and had vainly thought the contest nearly at an end, when it was scarcely begun. The British, on the other hand, had profited by the experience of the last, and were making the most extensive and thorough preparations for the ensuing campaign. At this critical juncture of the war of the revolution, no colony was more deeply interested in the result than Connecticut, and none better prepared for the emergency. The people of this colony had for more than a century, enjoyed one of the most beneficent colonial governments that ever fell to the lot of the subjects of a monarchical government. They had literally governed themselves, although nominally subject to the crown of Great Britain. Notwithstanding their extraordinary privileges, no colony stepped forth with more alacrity to the aid of the oppressed people of Massachusetts than Connecticut; and none exhibited more sympathy or poured forth their blood and treasure more freely in the onset. In the campaign of 1775, she sent forth her thousands to the aid of Massachusetts; and not only this, but she was the first to commence offensive operations against Great Britain. Her citizens, unaided by any other colony, had conquered the forts on Lake Champlain, captured the garrisons, and secured the prisoners and munitions of war in Connecticut. She had also been the first to rally in sustaining the cause of the revolution in the commercial city of New York, where she had sent her militia under Gen. Wooster, in the summer of 1775. Again in the autumn



of the same year, her citizens had destroyed one of the most offensive royal presses in the colonies ; and finally, by the advice of Gen. Washington, Connecticut had raised a force, which, commanded by Gen. Lee, had wrested New York from the royal authority early in 1776. The last movement was not graciously received by the committee of safety of New York, who exercised the powers of government during the recess of the Provincial Congress of New York. The Connecticut forces were met on the frontier by the committee of safety, who earnestly entreated Gen. Lee, and his little army, to pause on the borders of Connecticut ; but the heroic Connecticut forces were not dissuaded from their patriotic enterprise by the timid and vacillating policy of the New York committee, but marched into the city, and for the first time planted the standard of liberty, independence, and resistance to British oppression in that city, which has since become the commercial emporium of this great republic. It is an historical fact, that there was not sufficient patriotism or energy in the city of New York, in 1776, although having the glorious example of Boston before them, to achieve their own independence, and establish a government of their own choice ; but for their first emancipation from the thralldom of the British government, the citizens of New York were indebted to the generous sympathy of the hardy yeomen of Connecticut. The patriotic band from Connecticut maintained their position in New York until the arrival of the American army, under Washington, in the beginning of April, '76. The design of the British during this campaign, proved to be, the possession of New York. A part of their fleet, from Halifax, arrived off Sandy Hook, on the 23d of June ; the remainder followed within a week, and Gen. Howe established his headquarters at Staten Island.

On the 8th of August, Gen. Washington states that for the several posts on New York, Long Island, Governor's Island, and Paulus Hook, he had but 13,557 effective men. His nominal force was somewhat larger.

Opposed to him was the entire British force, concentrated at Sandy Hook, consisting, by the middle of August, of more than 24,000 men, combined with a fleet of more than 130 vessels. Subsequently, the American army was augmented by fourteen regiments of militia, from Connecticut, comprising from nine

to ten thousand men, some three thousand militia from the State of New York, and two thousand from the south; so that the whole force under Gen. Washington, at the commencement of operations on Long Island, on the 22d of August, was more than 25,000 men. This was the largest body of American troops ever collected at one point during the revolution; and the British force was proportionately large. The fourteen regiments of militia sent to New York city, together with the Connecticut quota in the regular army, constituted at least one-third of Gen. Washington's army in the neighborhood of New York, at the commencement of operations on Long Island. Shortly after, nine out of the eleven regiments left in Connecticut, were sent to the relief of Suffolk county, L. I., so that, as Connecticut had at that period but twenty-five regiments, all of them but two, were summoned to the aid of New York at one time, and that in the most busy season of the year. After the defeat on Long Island, the evacuation of New York, and the retreat of Washington across the Hudson, the Connecticut militia having disbanded, and gone home, for the defence of the State, there was only a force of 4,000 men left under Gen. Lee, at White Plains, which force was speedily withdrawn, although composed principally of Connecticut men, so that the State was left to rely on its own resources, and in a measure defenceless. This was one of the most gloomy periods of the war of independence. The situation of Connecticut was critical in the extreme. Two British armies occupied strong positions on her right and left; Long Island Sound was covered with a large British fleet; and the British force in New York and Newport, was scarcely inferior in number to the whole militia of the State.

The militia had been harassed by repeated calls of duty, and had suffered greatly in the defence of New York, by privation and sickness,—so that had the British invaded Connecticut at this time, the militia would have been ill-qualified to have resisted them with success. In addition to other evils, the harvest of the past season, had been scanty, and gathered with great difficulty from the want of laborers; the women became familiar with the use of the plough, hoe, axe, and sickle; and but a small supply of seed had been put into the ground for the coming season. But, notwithstanding these numerous and appalling difficulties, neither Athens, when she was beset by the legions of Xerxes, nor Rome,

when she had lost the battle of Cannæ, exhibited a more indomitable spirit of firmness than the people and government of Connecticut at the close of the autumn of 1776. The high character for bravery which the people of Connecticut had acquired in the various contests in the beginning of the revolution—the great unanimity which prevailed among them—their patriotic devotion to the cause of independence—together with the unconquerable spirit of resistance which had so signally displayed itself in the heroic bravery of Knowlton, and the ever-memorable martyrdom of the gallant Hale—all had their influence to protect the people of Connecticut from the incursions of the enemy, and preserve them from the danger then so apparently formidable and threatening.

In going over the events of the campaign of 1776, which relate to Connecticut, it may be well, in this place, to give a brief account of *one*, whose lamentable fate ought to be preserved in the memory of every American.\* NATHAN HALE was a son of Connecticut, born in South Coventry, on the 6th of June, 1755.

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\* The following is a genuine specimen of tory benevolence, and may be depended upon as real matter of fact.

NEWBURYPORT, February 13, 1777.

Samuel Hale, late of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, after his elopement from thence, visited an uncle in Connecticut, where he was hospitably entertained. But as his uncle was a Whig, and had a son, a young gentleman of a liberal education and most amiable disposition, who strongly felt for his bleeding country, and being very active in the military way, was urged and prevailed on to take a commission in the continental army; consequently Samuel was obliged to conduct with caution, and counterfeit as well as he could, a whigish phiz while he tarried, which however, was but for a short time, before he made his escape to Gen. Howe, in New York.

Some time after this, Capt. Hale, at the request of the General, (Washington) went into New York in disguise, and having nearly accomplished his designs, whom should he meet, but his aforesaid cousin Samuel, whom he attempted to shun, but Sam knew him too well. Capt. Hale soon found he was advertised, and so particularly described that he could not get through Long Island. He therefore attempted to escape by the way of King's Bridge, and so far succeeded as to get to the outer guard, where he was suspected, apprehended, carried back and tried, and yet would have been acquitted, had not his affectionate and grateful cousin Samuel, appeared and made oath that he was a captain in the continental army, and that he was a spy; in consequence of which, he was immediately hung up. However, at the gallows, he made a sensible and spirited speech; among other things, told them they were shedding the blood of the innocent, and that if he had ten thousand lives, he would lay them all down, if called to it, in defence of his injured, bleeding country.

Gifted with a high order of intellect, he was a scholar from choice—and parental assistance encouraged his youthful efforts. He graduated at Yale College in the year 1773, with the highest reputation as a scholar, a man of truth, and a lover of humanity. Before reaching the early age of twenty-one, the battle of Lexington prompted him to obey the watch-word of liberty which

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**NOTE.—1776.** Maj. John Bigelow, with a fine company of matrons, started from Hartford for Quebec, on the 2d of April, 1776.

There were in New York over 10,000 continental troops, besides those of the New York province, April 8th, 1776.

Congress resolved that all ships and other vessels, and all goods, wares, and merchandise, owned by any inhabitants of Great Britain, taken on the high seas, or between high or low water mark, should be judged a lawful prize.

On the 27th day of March, 1776, the committee of inspection of fifteen towns in Hartford county, duly warned, met at the state house, in Hartford, to take into consideration the alarming prices of West India goods, and to regulate prices in the country—which they did on West India rum, New England rum, molasses, sugars, coffee, and salt. And as indirect means had in some cases been used, upon committees of inspection, to obtain India tea, under a pretence for the sick, by applying to committees of other towns for permission to purchase it. The board resolved that no license to purchase tea except for the sick, should be granted, and then only when the person applying, and the sick person needing it, resided in the town where such application should be made—with the name of the person applying, the exact quantity wanted, and the name of the sick person entered in the permit, and the permit left with the seller to whom directed—and the tea to be sold at the rate of 4s. and 6d. per pound.—[Connecticut Courant.]

April 15, 1776. So violent were the whigs against the tories in this State during the war, that the tories were published in capitals, in the Connecticut Courant, on the first page of the paper, in the following manner: *Persons held up to Public View as Enemies to the Country*—Jonathan Hill, Alford, Massachusetts Bay; Stephen Sears, Sharon, Ct.; Lieut. Ebenezer Orvis, Farmington, Ct.; David Vaughn, Jericho, Massachusetts Bay.—Note. Stephen Sears made his confession before the committee of inspection of Sharon, which was accepted 30th of April, '76.

May 20th 1776. Capt. David Hawley sailed from Stratford on the 17th of March, 1776: on the 21st day of March he was taken by the Bellona of 6 guns and 8 swivels; the British crews sprang on board eager for plunder, damned Capt. Hawley, his crew, and country; he with his men were taken and put on board the Bellona—about 10 at night they joined the Rose, Glasgow, and Swan, men-of-war; he with his crew were put on board the Rose, and the next day sailed into Newport. Liberty was given him to get his clothes from his own sloop, he found his chest broken, and all his clothes stolen. They offered Capt. Hawley 5s. sterling per day, a good cabin for his use, and to pay for his vessel after the war closed, his choice of a plantation in any part of the

called him to the hardships of war, and he accepted the commission of a captain, under Col. Knowlton, of Ashford. He was soon called to encounter the dangers of war, and was actively engaged in the disastrous campaign for the defence of New York. Here he conceived the bold project of capturing a sloop of the enemy, containing supplies ; success crowned his efforts,

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continent, if he would act as their pilot, which he refused ; in consequence of which, he was parted from his men on board the Glasgow, without even the privilege of writing to his mate. The Glasgow on the 5th of April, sailed from Newport, and after a severe action at sea, arrived in Halifax in eleven days, where Capt. Hawley remained two weeks ; but on the 7th of May, he with eight others, escaped in a small boat and went to Old York. [Conn. Courant.]

Extract of a letter published in the Connecticut Courant, May 20th, 1776.

“ A gang of tories have been discovered in the neighborhood of Fairfield, taken and imprisoned. These and others undoubtedly corresponded with the enemies of America ; and a line of intelligence from hence to Quebec has been kept up, whereby every movement of ours has been made known to our enemies. And by these miscreants, the British prisoners are assisted to escape. If these internal enemies are suffered to proceed in their hellish schemes, our ruin is certain ; but if they are destroyed, the power of Hell and Britain will never prevail against us. Rouse then, my countrymen, search out the nest of these vultures, and bring them to the punishment they merit.”

On the 30th of May, 1776, Capt. Niles, in the Spy, privateer, on a cruise between Montauk Point and Block Island, was chased into New London, by the Cerberus frigate : she followed the Spy in as far as the race and left her ; the Spy lost her top-mast. Capt. Jones in a privateer, Capt. Brooks in a New Haven privateer, who sailed from New London with Capt. Niles, put into Newport.

News arrived at New London, June 7th, 1776, that the French Court had taken off the prohibition on the exportation of gun powder from France, and that large quantities of it arrived daily in the West Indies—which caused great joy in the States.

By a letter dated Boston, June 13th, 1776, the writer states that on Friday last, the frigate Milford, of 28 guns, came up with the Yankee Hero, privateer, Capt. Tracy, of Newburyport, off Cape Ann, and had an engagement of near two hours ; when the Yankee Hero, struck to the frigate, being vastly superior in force. Capt. Tracy was wounded in his leg ; Lieut. Main badly wounded ; Rowe, of Cape Ann, lost an arm ; four were killed, and fourteen wounded.

June 24th. Thirty-three and a quarter tons of salt petre manufactured in Connecticut previous to the 4th of June, had been received in store for the colony, to supply the powder mills, two of which mills were in full operation, and the third nearly completed.

By a letter dated Boston, June 19th, 1776, from Capt. Seth Harding, of the brig Defence, in the Connecticut service, to Gov. Trumbull, it is stated that he

and the heroic character which he gained in the army, for this daring enterprise, probably cost him his life.

After the fatal action of the 27th of August, and the subsequent retreat of the Americans from New York, Gen. Washington, desirous of obtaining information with regard to the strength, position, and probable movements of the enemy, determined, with

sailed last Sunday from Plymouth, that he soon heard firing at the northward; and in the evening he fell in with four armed schooners, near the entrance of Boston harbor; he there learned, that the schooners had been engaged with an English ship and brig, and were obliged to quit the action—that the Defence soon after went into Nantucket road, where he found a ship and brig at anchor; and the Defence fell in between them and cast anchor, about 11 o'clock, P. M. He then hailed the ship, and received the answer—from Great Britain. Capt. Harding ordered her to strike her colors, to America. They answered, by asking, what brig is that? he told him the brig Defence. Then Capt. Harding again hailed him, and informed him he disliked to kill his men, but that he would have the ship at all events, and again ordered her to strike her colors. When the Mayor replied yes, I'll strike, and then fired a broad side at the Defence, which was immediately returned, and the engagement lasted three hours, when the ship and brig both struck to the Defence. The Defence lost no men, and had but nine wounded; the enemy had eighteen killed, and several wounded.

Capt. Harding took from the two vessels, 210 prisoners, among whom was Col. Campbell, of Gen. Frazer's regiment of Highlanders. The Mayor was killed in the battle.

Capt. Harding also stated, that on the 18th of June, a ship was seen in Boston Bay, and came towards the entrance of the harbor—that Capt. Harding hoisted sails, with four schooners in company, and took the ship without an engagement, with 112 Highlanders on board. He stated his brig was much damaged in her sails and rigging.

In June, 1776, there was a meeting of the inn keepers, on the East side of Connecticut river, in Hartford county, when they unanimously resolved to purchase no rum by the hogshead or barrel at the exorbitant price it was then selling, for four months. And further agreed to sell all liquors at their houses, at their usual prices, for the time. Said meeting was then adjourned until October, and all inn holders and retailers of liquors, were requested to take such measures as would prevent monopolies for the good of the country.

June 29, 1776. The committee to superintend prisoners stationed in this colony, resolved that no prisoner under the committee should be absent from their lodgings after dark, on pain of imprisonment. And that all prisoners of war in the colony (except officers) should be permitted to work at their trades for wages, who were able, and such as would not work as aforesaid, should be confined, and subsist upon the billeting allowed by Congress.

New York, July 4th, 1776. Last Wednesday, passed through New York, Gov. Franklin, of New Jersey, on his way to Gov. Trumbull, at Lebanon; Gov. Franklin is a noted tory and ministerial tool, and exceedingly busy in perplexing

the consent of a council of war, to send an officer of adequate talents and courage into the British camp, to examine their force, and discover their designs. This proposition was submitted by Gen. Washington to the young officers of the army, but not a single individual was found willing to undertake the hazardous enterprise, except Hale. Washington gave the parting blessing

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the cause of liberty. His principles, connexions, abilities, and address, have rendered him a dangerous enemy in New Jersey ; he therefore is removed under a strong guard to Connecticut. He is the son of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, the genius of the day, and the great patron of American liberty.

On Friday last, forty-nine dirty tory prisoners, taken at Johnstown, N. Y., were brought under guard from Albany to Hartford, and others were on their way.

The several regiments of foot which were ordered to be raised in this colony, with three regiments of the troop of light horse marched for New York, to defend the invaded province.

It was reported that it was proposed, after three months, that all copper coin made of base metal or light in weight, should be suppressed, and the remainder to pass at the rate of 15 for an 8th of a dollar ; and if not then a supply for use, in such case, all were to be called in and a new issue made, of continental copper coin of a large size, 12 of which should be passed for the 8th of a dollar, and no other coppers to pass.

July 8th, 1776. Last week twenty-two prisoners were taken on board a barge of the British fleet, as they were sounding a channel below New York, and arrived at Farmington, in this State.

The committee for prisoners, resolved that no prisoner on parole, should go out of the parish where he was stationed, except by a written permit, on pain of imprisonment. And that it would be unsafe to employ prisoners to make fire arms, gun powder, cast cannon, cannon balls, or erect fortifications ; it was also recommended to all the towns in the colony, where prisoners were stationed, to have a watch to guard the avenues into and out of towns, to be set by 9 o'clock, P. M., to preserve peace and prevent intelligence prejudicial to the liberties of America.—[Connecticut Courant ]

Hartford, July 15, 1776. Last week about one hundred and fifty tories in the Nine Partners, N. Y., rose in a body, fell upon the sons of liberty, disarmed them, and took possession of their committee chamber, but were quelled by a party from the west part of Connecticut of about three hundred ; and twenty of them taken prisoners.

Governor Trumbull issued a proclamation for all persons excused by law from military duty, householders, to form themselves into companies, to keep up the spirit of the times, &c.

After which East Windsor, Saybrook, and various other towns, formed themselves into companies, appointed their officers, &c.



and instructions to the heroic youth in person. In obedience to his directions, Hale passed over to Long Island; and fulfilled the object of his mission by obtaining the desired information. On his return he was recognized and betrayed by a relative. He was immediately arrested and brought before Sir William Howe, who, without even the formalities of a trial, ordered him to be

The following General Orders, dated Chamblee, August 7, 1776, were sent to Gov. Trumbull by express from Ticonderoga :

“*no.*” General Orders. Parole, St. Jerome. Countersign, Paris.

“His Excellency Gen. Carlton, orders the commanding officers of corps, to take special care, that every one under their command should be informed that letters or messages from rebel traitors in arms against their king, rioters, disturbers of the public peace, plunderers, robbers, assassins or murderers, are on no occasion to be admitted. That should emissaries from such lawless men again presume to approach the army, whether under the name of a flag of truce men, or ambassadors, except when they come to implore the king’s mercy, their persons shall be immediately seized and committed to close confinement, in order to be proceeded against as the law directs ; their papers and letters for whomsoever, even those for the commander-in-chief, are to be delivered to the pretest marshal, that unread and unopened, they may be burned by the hands of the common hangman. At the same time, the commander-in-chief expects that neither the assassination of Brigadier General Gordon, nor the late notorious breach of faith, in resolving not to return the troops, and Canadians taken at St. John’s in exchange for those rebels who fell into the hands of savages, at the Cedars, and Quinchin purchased from them at a great price, and restored to their country, on those express conditions, be not imputed to the provincials at large, but to a few wicked and designing men, who first deceived them step by step, misled the credulous multitude to the brink of ruin, afterwards usurped authority over them, established a despotic tyranny not to be borne, and now wantonly and foolishly endeavor to provoke the spilling the blood of our unhappy countrymen, of this continent, in hopes of covering their own guilt, or confirming their tyranny by the general destruction of their country. Let their crimes pursue these faithless, bloody-minded men, who assert that white is black, and black white ; it belongs to Britons to distinguish themselves, not less by their humanity than their valor ; it belongs to the king’s troops to save the blood of his deluded subjects, whose greatest fault perhaps is in having been deceived by such men to their own destruction ; it belongs to the crown, it is the duty of all faithful servants of the crown, to preserve from oppression, and restore to liberty, the once happy, free and loyal people of this continent.

“All prisoners from the rebellious provinces that choose to return home, are to hold themselves in readiness to embark at a short notice. The commissary, Wm. Murray, shall visit the transports destined for them, and see that wholesome provisions, necessary clothing, with all possible convenience for their passage, be prepared for the unfortunate men. They are to look on their respective provinces as their prison, and there to remain until further enlarged, or summoned to appear before the commander-in-chief of this province, or any other commander-in-chief, for his majesty for the time being, which summons



executed on the gibbet as a spy ; which inhuman order was carried into effect at an early hour the next morning, in an ignominious manner, by the hands of a refugee.

This cruel execution, or rather assassination, has generally been supposed to have taken place on Long Island, but it has lately been ascertained from undoubted authority, that the scene of Hale's last sufferings was in New York city.

shall be obeyed. Gen. Howe will regulate the place of their landing. N. B. If he is allowed the liberty. Ticonderoga, August 12."

The above is Gen. Carleton's orders at Chamblee, which was sent us by Maj. Bigelow, who went with a flag, and was detained 24 days.

Brig. Gen. Gordon was killed within about 60 rods of the enemy's camp.

August 12, 1776. Last week from twenty to thirty Tories arrived in Hartford from Albany, fifteen of them were to be stationed at New London.

A new ship-of-war, owned by this colony, was struck by lightning at Saybrook, and considerably damaged.

By a letter from Mount Independence, (opposite Ticonderoga) to a gentleman in Salisbury, dated August 5, 1776, a list of the American fleet on the lake, is given as follows, viz. :—Royal Savage, Capt. Wyncoop, twelve carriage guns, nine 6 and 4 pounders, ten swivels, and 50 men ; Enterprize, Capt. Dixon, twelve carriage guns, nine 5 and 4 pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men ; Revenge, Capt. Laman, ten carriage guns, 4 and 2 pounders, ten swivels, and thirty-five men ; Liberty, Capt. Primer, ten carriage guns, 4 and 2 pounders, 8 swivels, and forty-five men ; four gondolas, Mansfield, Simmons, Sumner, and Ustina, captains, each gondola three guns, one 12 and two 9 pounders, 8 swivels, and forty-five men ; three row galleys on a new contruction, ready to launch ; and ten gondolas and more soon to be ready, with which he thought the Americans could hold the superiority on Lake Champlain.

The whole standing militia of Connecticut, west of Connecticut river, with two regiments on the east side, have marched to join the grand American army, at New York, consisting of at least ten thousand men.—Connecticut Courant, August, 1776 ]

1776. By a letter from Ticonderoga, dated August 10, 1776, to a gentleman in New Haven, it is stated that the American fleet of ten sail would go down the lake within a day or two on a cruise. Also, that Brig. Gen. Gordon was killed by a Lieut. of one of our reconnoitering parties between Chamblee and St. Johns.

New London, August 23, 1776. Last Lord's day the ship-of-war owned by this State, built at Saybrook, commanded by Capt. Wm. Coit, came out of the river, being the largest vessel that had ever been over Saybrook bar, (piloted by James Harris.)

Three vessels arrived in New London in one week, from New York, with Tories collected in New York city, and on Long Island, who were sent into the country towns for safe keeping.

"Thus fell Nathan Hale, in the morning of life, and in the dawn of high promise of reputation and honor to himself, and of usefulness to his country. The manner and circumstances of his death must ever be abhorrent to the feelings of humanity. He was treated in the most unfeeling and indecent manner; and every indulgence,—every mark of sympathy and respect was

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In consequence of the great number of prizes taken by us and carried into different ports at the eastward, Jamaica rum is only 4s. and 4d. per gallon, and sugar \$5 per hundred, in Boston.

August 26, 1776. Last week three ships and two tenders appeared off New London, and anchored off Fisher's Island.

Last Saturday, a number of gentlemen tories were brought to New London, and were sent to Norwich.

Last Monday, David Matthews, Mayor of the city of New York, was brought from Litchfield, and on Friday was returned to Litchfield, to remain under the care of Capt. Moses Seymour.

All the women and children, with the sick and infirm, were removed out of New York, by the recommendation of Gen. Washington.—[Conn. Courant.]

Sept. 4th, 1776. By the advice of a council of war, the Thursday night previous to the above date, the whole of the American army on Long Island returned to New York, with their camp equipage, cannon, stores, &c., and so still were they in their movements, and secret in their designs, that it was not discovered by the enemy until the army and baggage were got over, and only three men in the battalion, the last, fell into their hands. Saturday and Sunday our troops evacuated our fortifications on Governor's Island and Red Hook, and brought off their cannon, &c., under a heavy fire from the enemy on Long Island, when the Americans lost some men.

In the battle of the 27th of August, Col. Huntington's regiment suffered much; there were missing after the action, six captains, six lieutenants, twenty-one sergeants, two drummers, and one hundred and twenty-six rank and file.

Sixty-four women arrived in one day at Milford, from Long Island.

The post office of New York was removed to Dobb's Ferry, thirty miles up the North river.

The following is a list of the names of officers in Col. Huntington's regiment, who were prisoners with the enemy, who sent a flag of truce for their baggage and money, viz.:—Lieut. Makepeace, Capt. Brewster, Ensign Lyman, Ensign Chapman, Ensign Hinsman, Ensign Bradford, Lieut. Orcott, Ensign Higgins, Capt. Bissell, Lieut. Gillett, Lieut. Gay, Adjutant Hopkins, Doctor Holmes, and Col. Clark.—[Connecticut Courant.]

On the 16th of September, 1776, the following persons from Connecticut, were confined with others, in one room, at Halifax, among felons, thieves, negroes, &c.:—Sergeants Levi Munson, of Wallingford, Zachariah Brinsmade,

denied him. He desired the attendance of a clergyman,—it was refused. But what was more inhuman, the letters which he had written to his mother and friends, were destroyed on the morning of his execution. This savage outrage on the feelings of humanity could only be equalled by the reason which was assigned for it; which was, “that the rebels should not know

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of Woodbury; Corporals Charles Steward, of Stamford, Roger Moore, of Salisbury, Samuel Lewis, Wm. Gray, David Goss, and Adonijah Maxum, of Sharon, Ebenezer Mack, and Levi Barnum, of Norfolk, and Flowers, of New Hartford. In the hospital—Amos Green, of Norwich, J. Mathews, of Goshen, and Wm. Drinkwater, of New Milford.

All Col. Ethan Allen's men lived to return from England.

Sept. 30, 1776. The following is an extract of a letter, dated Camp, Long Island, July 15, 1776, by Wm. Falconer, a Scotch officer, to his brother in Scotland.

“Dear Brother—With the greatest difficulty I have obtained this small piece of paper, to inform you I am very well, notwithstanding our miserable situation. We have been encamped on this Island the month past, and lived upon nothing but salt pork and pease—we sleep upon the sea shore, nothing to shelter us from the violent rains, but our coats or miserable paltry blankets. Nothing grows on the Island, being a mere sand bank, with a few bushes which harbor a million of musquitoes, a greater plague than there can be in hell itself, &c. &c.”

About the 5th of October, 1776, arrived four transports at Elizabethtown, in New Jersey, from Quebec, with four hundred and twenty Americans, who had been prisoners in Canada. The officers from Connecticut, were, Maj. Return J. Meigs, Capt's. Samuel Lockwood, E. Oswald, O. Hanchett, A. Savage, B. Chatten.—[Connecticut Courant.]

Monday, Oct. 7, 1776. On the 29th, a prize ship from Jamaica, bound to London, was sent into New London, by the armed brig Defence, Capt. Harding; she sailed from Montego Bay in company with two hundred sail under a convoy of two ships-of-war, which returned to port; the cargo of the prize consisted of 306 hogsheads of sugar, 150 do. of rum, 16 bales of cotton, a quantity of coffee and mahogany, and 2 sea turtles—of about 300 tons, called the John, McDonald, master.

On the 3d of October, Capt. Harding arrived in the Defence, from a cruise—the same morning off Narragansett beach, he fell in with two British frigates; the frigates fired sixty or seventy shots at the Defence, and the Defence returned a like number—and the frigates came to anchor off Goshen rect, about five miles west of New London harbor.

Two days after, Capt. Harding took the aforesaid prize; he also took a Guinea-man, homeward bound, from the West Indies, Wm. Jackson, master.

October, 1776. At the naval action on lake Champlain, on the 11th day of October, 1776, when the American fleet was defeated, and their fleet left in a shattered and ruined condition, by the superior force of the British, in ships

that they had a man in their army who could die with so much firmness." It is difficult to conceive of a situation more awful, or of one that in a more eminent degree, was calculated to overcome the firmest mind. Among entire strangers, in the hands of his enemies, every face presenting the aspect of hostility, and without a single friend to sympathize with, or console

guns, and men; though the action lasted five hours, within musket shot of each other, only one galley, sloop Enterprize, two small schooners, and one gondola, escaped; the remainder of the fleet was taken and burnt. General Arnold fought in the galley Congress, as long as possible, then ran her ashore, burnt her, and escaped by land to Ticonderoga, with a loss of twenty men. Gen. Waterbury, in the Washington galley, fought until the galley was sinking under him, and was obliged to strike to the enemy.—[Connecticut Courant.]

P. S. Generals Arnold and Waterbury, were officers from Connecticut.

The regiments from Connecticut who met the enemy near White Plains, in 1776, where Gen. Lee marched to attack them, were commanded by Colonel Chester, Col. Douglass, and Col. Silliman, when about one hundred and fifty men were killed and wounded, in an engagement of about one hour.

On the 4th of November, 1776, the British had four ships cruising near Block Island, of 32, 28, 18 and 28 guns.

On the third day of December, the inhabitants of New London were much alarmed by the appearance of eleven ships from the eastward, going into Long Island sound, most of which appeared to be men-of-war, and by their course for some time appeared bound to New London, but towards night anchored near Long Island shore; the next morning they were joined by other ships-of-war and transports from New York, nearly one hundred in number; they sailed to, and anchored at Black Point, about eight miles west of New London harbor, where they remained on the 6th. The appearance of so large a fleet within one hours sail, threw the inhabitants into great consternation. The Governor gave orders for the whole of the militia in this State, east of Connecticut river, with three regiments from the west side, immediately to march to Black Point, but the fleet disappeared on Friday morning, and the orders were countermanded. On the 9th of December, twenty-four sail of the British fleet were at anchor between Fairfield and Norwalk.

Nov. 8th, 1776. A number of troops from Rhode Island, from the east end of Long Island, and from Connecticut, embarked at New Haven and landed at Shetocket, on Long Island, to bring off some Tories, and the effects of a gentleman friendly to America. Being interrupted by some Tories who fired at them, the crew killed ten and brought off twenty-three, two of whom were deserters from the American army. They lost one sergeant killed in the contest. About the same time, Samuel Glover, a noted offender, was taken on said Island, and committed to jail in New London. He had taken an ensign's commission in the service of the British, and some important papers were found in his possession.

Friday, Nov. 15th, 1776. Last Friday was sent into the port of New London, by the Continental armed brig Cabot, Capt. E. Hinman, a prize ship of

him, in this hour of trial. and subjected to contumely and reproach—having the opprobrious epithet of ‘rebel’ continually bestowed upon him, he had nothing but the consciousness of his moral innocence, and the justness of the cause in which he was engaged, to sustain him—and these were sufficient. He met his fate with the most dignified composure and firmness. His last

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200 tons, bound from Jamaica to Scotland, laden with rum, sugar, &c.—[Green's Connecticut Gazette.]

On the 18th of September, 1776, several of the most respectable ladies in East Haddam, about thirty in number, met at J. Chapman's and husked in four or five hours about 240 bushels of corn. A noble example, so necessary in this bleeding country, while their fathers and brothers were fighting the battles of the nation.—[Green's Gazette.]

Nov. 20th, 1776. A few days since, some of the men of one of the British tenders, landed at Stamford, on a point of land, and shot, and carried off two fat cattle.—[Green's Gazette.]

On the 5th day of December, 1776, an order was issued to John McKall, captain of the veteran guards in Norwich, that from appearances, the enemy designed an attack on New London—therefore ordered him forthwith to call out, marshal, equip, and march his company for the defence of New London, or any other place that might be attacked. And the company under the command of Col. E. Wolcott, commander of the fort at New London. (On the back of which, are the names of those who enlisted in said company.)

Dec. 12, 1776. Capt. Harding informed the Governor that Mr. Bartram was in poor health, and unable to go to sea, which he much regretted, as he was a man of courage, and wished him kept under pay, for his former good services.

Dec. 23, 1776. The British fleet at Black Point, hoisted sail on Friday morning, and about mid-day, were in breast of New London harbor, and made a most formidable appearance. The inhabitants of New London were again alarmed for about half an hour; they had every appearance of being about to come in; after which they stood out again, and at night anchored the south side of Fisher's Island. On Saturday Commodore Sir Peter Parker, who had the command of said fleet, proceeded to Rhode Island with the ships-of-war, and anchored above the harbor of Newport, and on the Sabbath landed a body of troops, under Generals Clinton and Piercy, who took possession of Newport, with little or no resistance. The few American troops on the Island retreated to Bristol, though they left some pieces of artillery. The British troops were supposed to be about 5,000 in number, many of them Hessians, some troops of horse, &c. They immediately began intrenchments at a place called Meeting House Hill, three miles from Bristol ferry. From the first appearance of the fleet, the militia of Rhode Island were in motion, and joined by a large body of troops from other States, and some companies of artillery. It was reported that the fleet and troops were escorted into Newport by a set of well known infamous Tories, who had infested the town. Two of the British frigates lay

words were, "*that he only lamented that he had but one life to lose for his country.*"

"Capt. Hale possessed a fine genius, had received an excellent education, and disclosed high promise of future talents and usefulness. He was open, generous, brave, and enthusiastic in the cause of liberty and his country, in which he had engaged, and for which he was destined to die an early martyr. The fate of Hale, it will be observed, was in almost every respect, strikingly similar to that of Major Andre. As it respects character, quali-

at Seconet passage, one near Bristol, and a fourth at the north end of Providence Island.—[Connecticut Courant.]

*An Anecdote.*—In 1776, when Col. McLellan acted as major, (as is related by one of his regiment,) and his regiment had arrived at their station, where they were to encamp, the major divided them into messes, while the colonel was to see the commissary, and find where to draw their rations. The commissary informed the colonel he had provisions, but that at that time he could not furnish his regiment with provisions, as others might arrive in camp. The colonel informed him, his regiment was entirely destitute of supplies, and he must furnish them to save them from starvation; that his men were respectable at home, and this their first experience in actual service, &c. But the commissary still refused to furnish his men as requested. The colonel having been long detained, Maj. McLellan met him, and the colonel informed him of their hopeless predicament, with a starving regiment, and yet provisions enough in the hands of the commissary. The major at once replied, I will see them turned out! and returned in haste to his regiment, and ordered the informant with nine others, each over six feet in height, to turn out, fix on their bayonets and follow him—(his object unknown to his men) they obeyed and followed him to the commissary store, and again requested provisions for the regiment, and received the same answer that was given to the colonel. Maj. McLellan replied, "you rascal, do you think I will permit my regiment to starve and perish in a cook's shop, furnished by the public—do you, sir, instantly turn out sufficient, or I will despatch you," while his ten 6 feet soldiers all presented their bayonets at the breast of the commissary, who instantly and tremblingly threw open his store door and turned out a necessary supply, to the great joy and mirth of the soldiers.

The following facts are related of a noble horse that was rode by Col. McLellan during the war: so accustomed had he become to martial music, that for years after the war closed, whenever he heard the drum and fife on training days, he would leap from his pasture and parade himself before the company with as much apparent satisfaction as the captain who commanded it.

June, 1776. The colony of Connecticut, at the special session in June, 1776, instructed the delegates of the colony, in the General Congress, to propose to said Congress, that the United Colonies should be declared Independent States, &c., as appears by the following Preamble and Resolution, viz.:

fications, and personal interest, Hale would not suffer from a comparison with Andre. Yet strange as it may seem, the fate of Andre, even in America, has been universally lamented, and his memory universally respected; whilst it is scarcely known that there was ever such a man as Nathan Hale. Andre has had a monument erected to his memory by his country, and the most

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#### DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, holden at Hartford, in said Colony, by special order of the Governor, on the 14th day of June, A. D. 1776.

Whereas the King and Parliament of Great Britain, by many acts of said Parliament have claimed and attempted to exercise powers incompatible with, and subversive of the ancient, just, and constitutional rights of this and the rest of the English colonies in America, and have refused to listen to the many and frequent, humble, decent, and dutiful petitions for redress of grievances and restoration of such their rights and liberties, and turning from them with neglect and contempt to support such claims, after a series of accumulated wrong and injury, have proceeded to invade said colonies with fleets and armies, to destroy our towns, shed the blood of our countrymen, and involve us in the calamities incident to war; and are endeavoring to reduce us to an abject surrender of our natural and stipulated rights, and subject our property to the most precarious dependence on their arbitrary will and pleasure, and our persons to slavery, and at length have declared us out of the king's protection, have engaged foreign mercenaries against us, and are evidently and strenuously seeking our ruin and destruction. These and many other transactions, too well known to need enumeration; the painful experience and effects of which we have suffered and feel, make it evident, beyond the possibility of a doubt, that we have nothing to hope from the justice, humanity or temperate councils of the British King or his Parliament, and that all hopes of a reconciliation, upon just and equal terms are delusory and vain. In this state of extreme danger, when no alternative is left us but absolute and indefinite submission to such claims as must terminate in the extreme of misery and wretchedness, or a total separation from the King of Great Britain, and renunciation of all connection with that nation, and a successful resistance to that force which is intended to effect our destruction. Appealing to that God, who knows the secrets of all hearts, for the sincerity of former declarations of our desire to preserve our ancient and constitutional relation to that nation, and protesting solemnly against their oppression and injustice, which have driven us from them, and compelled us to use such means as God in his providence hath put in our power, for our necessary defence and preservation—

Resolved unanimously by this Assembly, that the delegates of this colony in General Congress, be, and they are hereby instructed to propose to that respectable body, to declare the United American Colonies, free and independent States, absolved from all allegiance to the King of Great Britain, and to give the assent of this colony to such Declaration, when they shall judge it expedient



distinguished honors and rewards conferred upon his family ; but what has *our* country done for the memory of Hale ? No stone, however humble, has been erected to it ; no memorial has rescued it from oblivion ; and no inscription has preserved his ashes from insult, (until within a few years past, when Congress appropriated \$1,000 to erect a monument to his memory.) Such is

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and best, and to whatever measures may be thought proper and necessary by the Congress, for forming foreign alliances, or any plan of operations for necessary and mutual defence : and also that they move and promote, as fast as may be convenient, a regular and permanent plan of union and confederation of the colonies for the security and preservation of their just rights and liberties, and for mutual defence and security—saving that the administration of Government and the power ought to be left and remain to the respective Colonial Legislatures ; and that such plan be submitted to the respective Legislatures for their previous consideration and assent.

Passed in the Lower House.

Test,

TITUS HOSMER, Clerk.

Concurred in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

At the session of the General Assembly of Connecticut, held in October, 1776, the Assembly passed the following Bill declaring this Colony an Independent State, &c., to wit :

Whereas George the Third, King of Great Britain, hath unjustly levied war against this and the other United States of America, declared them out of his protection, and abdicated the government of this State—whereby the good people of this State are absolved from their allegiance and subjection to the Crown of Great Britain. And whereas the representatives of the said United States in General Congress assembled, have published and declared that these United States are and of right ought to be free and independent States, and that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown.

Resolved by this Assembly, That they approve of the Declaration of Independence, published by said Congress, and that this colony is and of right ought to be a free and independent State, and the inhabitants thereof are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and all political connection between them and the King of Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved, and,

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the form of civil government in this State shall continue to be as established by Charter received from Charles the Second, King of England, so far as an adherence to the same will be consistent with an absolute independence of this State on the Crown of Great Britain ; and that all officers civil and military heretofore appointed by this State continue in the execution of their several offices, and the laws of this State shall continue in force until otherwise ordered ; and that for the future all writs and processes in law or equity shall issue in the name of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut ; and that in all summonses, attachments



the influence of books, and the evil tendency of importing them, that while Nathan Hale, an American, an ardent revolutionary patriot, and who offered his life as a sacrifice to our liberties. is wholly unknown,—the life, character, and fate of Andre are familiar to almost every individual, however humble his situation, or limited his intelligence.” [Pease and Niles’ Gazetter of Connecticut and Rhode Island.]

Thus while fond virtue wish’d in vain to save,  
 HALE. bright and generous, found a hapless grave.  
 With genius’ living flame his bosom glow’d,  
 And science charm’d him to her sweet abode.  
 In worth’s fair path his feet had ventur’d far,  
 The pride of peace, the rising grace of war.  
 In duty firm, in danger calm as even,  
 To friends unchanging, and sincere to heaven.  
 How short his course—the prize, how early won,  
 While weeping friendship mourns her fav’rite gone.”

DWIGHT.

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and other processes before any Assistant or Justice of the Peace, the words “one of his Majesty’s Justices of the Peace” be omitted, and that instead thereof be inserted “Justice of the Peace:” and that no writ or process shall have or bear any date save the year of our Lord Christ only—any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and the act in alteration of an act prescribing forms of writs, processes, &c., be repealed, and the same is hereby repealed.

Passed in the Lower House.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

Concurred in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

January 7. 1777. Recording of the Declaration of Independence by the United States, on the Records of Connecticut, by order of the General Assembly.

Baltimore, January 31st, 1777.

Gentlemen:—As there is not a more distinguished event in the history of America, than the Declaration of her Independence—nor any that in all probability will so much excite the attention of future ages: it is highly proper, that the memory of that transaction, together with the causes that gave rise to it, should be preserved in the most careful manner that can be devised.

I am therefore commanded by Congress to transmit you the enclosed copy of the Act of Independence, with the list of the several members of Congress subscribed thereto—and to request that you will cause the same to be put upon Record, that it may henceforth form a part of the archives of your State, and remain a lasting testimony of your approbation of that necessary and important measure.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,  
 your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

There were five sessions of the General Assembly, in 1776 ; three of which were special sessions. The delegation elected to meet at Hartford, in May, 1776, were not inferior to their predecessors in energy and patriotism. At this (May) session, the most vigorous measures were adopted for the defence of the colony, and the common country. By special Act, the Governor was

Honorable General Assembly of Connecticut,

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Declaration of the United Colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, made by their delegates in General Congress assembled, at Philadelphia, on the fourth day of July, 1776, declaring said Colonies to be Free and Independent States, be recorded at length in the Records of this Assembly, that the memory thereof may be preserved to posterity.

Passed in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLIS, Secretary.

Concurred with, in the Lower House.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

Upon the articles of confederation proposed by Congress, and acted upon by the General Assembly of Connecticut, January and February, 1778 ; the following Resolution was introduced and discussed, viz. :

Resolved, That all the articles of confederation proposed by Congress, for the consideration of the Legislatures of the respective States, (except the eighth article touching the manner of defraying public expences,) are approved of by this State. And as to said eighth article, it is the opinion of this State that the proportion of the numbers of inhabitants of every age, sex, and quality, except Indians, not paying taxes in each State, would be a much more equitable and practicable rule for taxation than the rule of valuation therein proposed—wherefore the delegates from this State are hereby directed to propose in the Congress of the United States, an amendment to said article, for the purpose and effect aforesaid. But in case said amendment should not be adopted, as this State are fully sensible of the great importance, necessity and advantage of a firm and speedy union, in order to obtain that desirable end, are willing to meet our sister States upon the middle ground, betwixt said two extremes. The delegates of this State, therefore, are further directed ultimately to propose a middle rule of taxation as contained in the following amendment, to come in next after the word *Treasury*, in the 6th line of said article, viz. :  
 “ which shall be supplied by each State, in proportion to its wealth and ability,  
 “ which shall be ascertained by two criterions, the one by the number of inhab-  
 “ itants of every age, sex, and quality, except Indians, not paying taxes in each  
 “ State, a true account of which, distinguishing the whole inhabitants shall be  
 “ taken within one year after the ratification of these articles, and forever after  
 “ on every fifth year, and transmitted to the United States in Congress assem-  
 “ bled: the other criterion, to judge of the wealth and ability of each State  
 “ shall be the value of all land within each State, granted to or surveyed for

made a naval officer of the colony, and was authorized to appoint subordinate officers in each of the following ports, viz: New London, New Haven, Middletown, and Norwalk. A maritime jurisdiction was also given to the County Courts. By another Act, all the troops of horse in the colony were formed into five regiments of light-horse. Large detachments of militia were

“any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon, shall  
 “be estimated according to such mode as the United States, in Congress assembled, shall from time to time direct and appoint. And if by the application  
 “of the two criterions there appears a difference in the relative wealth and  
 “ability of the States, a medium shall be struck by the United States in Congress assembled—and the proportion of money to be paid by each State, shall  
 “be settled by that medium. The taxes, &c. &c.”

And upon either of the aforesaid amendments being agreed on, the delegates of this State are hereby authorized and directed, fully and amply to confirm and ratify said confederation, together with any such alterations or amendments in any other article or articles as shall be finally agreed on by a majority of the States, in Congress assembled, which they shall think just and reasonable.

In the Lower House.

On report of the committee of conference, the further consideration of this Bill is referred to the next session of this Assembly.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

In the Lower House.

The foregoing Bill being read and discussed is ordered to be recommitted to the same committee that brought it in.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

Concurred in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Lower House.

The foregoing Bill is negatived.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

In the Upper House.

The foregoing Bill is passed.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Upper House.

William Pitkin and Samuel Huntington, Esq's., are appointed to confer with such gentlemen as the Lower House shall appoint, on the differing votes of the Houses on this Bill.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Lower House.

Capt. Halsey, Col. Porter, and Mr. Mumford, are appointed a committee of conference on the differing votes of the Houses, on this Bill, &c.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

ordered to hold themselves in constant readiness to march at the shortest notice, for the defence of any portion of Connecticut, or the adjoining colonies.

One regiment was ordered to be raised for the continental service, and another to be stationed about New London. Sixty thousand pounds, in bills of credit, equal to lawful money, were

Concurred in the Lower House.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's GOD entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their CREATOR, with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of

issued, bearing interest, and payable at or before the first day of January, 1781 ; and a tax of eight pence on the pound was laid on all polls and rateable estate in the colony.

At a special session, held in June, 1776, an act was passed to raise by enlistment, two regiments to reinforce the continental army in the northern department. David Waterbury, Jr., of

people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected ; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise ; the State remaining, in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States ; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners ; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance,

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws ; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation :

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us :

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States :

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world :

For imposing taxes on us without our consent :

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury :

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences :

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies :

Stamford, was appointed Brigadier General, and Samuel Mott, of Preston, and Heman Swift, of Cornwall, were appointed Colonels of this detachment. At the same special session, seven regiments, including the one raised in May, were ordered to march immediately and join the continental army in New York; (to be holden in service until the 25th of December, 1776)—

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments :

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction, of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms : our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies, are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES ; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them and the State of Great Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved ; and that as FREE AND INDE-

James Wadsworth, Jr. was appointed Brigadier General. The Colonels were Gold S. Silliman, of Fairfield, Charles Webb, of Stamford, Philip B. Bradley, of Ridgefield, Jedediah Huntington, of Norwich, Fisher Gay, of Farmington, Comfort Sage, of Middletown, and John Douglass, of Plainfield. Some of these did not accept of the appointment, and others were appointed in their places.

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PENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our *Lives*, our *Fortunes*, and our *sacred Honor*.

JOHN HANCOCK.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY—Sam'l. Adams, John Adams, Rob't. Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry.

RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE, &c.—Step. Hopkins, William Ellery.

CONNECTICUT—Roger Sherman, Sam'l. Huntington, Wm. Williams, Oliver Wolcott.

DELAWARE—Cæsar Rodney, Geo. Read.

NEW YORK—Wm. Floyd, Phil. Livingston, Fran's. Lewis, Lewis Morris.

NEW JERSEY—Rich'd. Stockton, Jno. Witherspoon, Fra's. Hopkinson, John Hart, Abra. Clark.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Josiah Bartlett, Wm. Whipple, Matthew Thornton.

VIRGINIA—George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Th's. Jefferson, Benja. Harrison, Tho's. Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.

PENNSYLVANIA—Rob't. Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benja. Franklin, John Morton, Geo. Clymer, Ja's. Smith, Geo. Taylor, James Wilson, Geo. Ross.

GEORGIA—Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, Geo. Walton.

NORTH CAROLINA—Wm. Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Edward Rutledge, Tho's. Heyward, Jun'r., Thomas Lynch, Jun'r, Arthur Middleton.

MARYLAND—Samuel Chase, Wm. Paca, Tho's. Stone, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.

IN CONGRESS, January 18, 1777.

ORDERED,

That an authentic Copy of the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCY, with the names of the MEMBERS of CONGRESS, subscribing the same, be sent to each of the UNITED STATES, and that they be desired to have the same put on RECORD.

By order of CONGRESS,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Attest,

CHA's. THOMSON, Secretary.

A true copy,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Early in July, these regiments were recruited and on their way to join the continental army at New York. Three regiments of light-horse accompanied this detachment.

The whole number of regularly enlisted regiments raised prior to August, 1776, amounted to eleven. Seven for the New York army, three for the northern forts on Lake Champlain. (including

### ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

And perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

ARTICLE I. The style of this confederacy shall be "The United States of America."

ART. II. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

ART. III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defence, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretence whatever.

ART. IV. The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different States in this Union, the free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States; and the people of each State shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other State, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided that such restrictions shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of property imported into any State, to any other State of which the owner is an inhabitant; provided also that no imposition, duties or restriction shall be laid by any State, on the property of the United States, or either of them.

. If any person guilty of, or charged with treason, felony, or other high misdemeanor in any State, shall flee from justice, and be found in any of the United States, he shall upon demand of the Governor, or Executive Power of the State from which he fled, be delivered up and removed to the State having jurisdiction of his offence.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each of these States to the records, acts, and judicial proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other State.

ART. V. For the more convenient management of the general interests of the United States, delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the Legislature of each State shall direct, to meet in Congress on the first Monday in November, in every year, with a power reserved to each State, to recall its delegates, or any of them, at any time within the year, and to send others in their stead, for the remainder of the year.



the one which marched for Canada in the early part of the year, and was commanded by Colonel Charles Burrall, of Canaan,) and one for the defence of New London, commanded by Colonel Erastus Wolcott.

Early in August, the aspect of affairs at New York was so threatening, that, at the urgent request of Gen. Washington, the

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No State shall be represented in Congress by less than two, nor by more than seven members; and no person shall be capable of being a delegate for more than three years, in any term of six years; nor shall any person, being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit receives any salary, fees or emoluments of any kind.

Each State shall maintain its own delegates in a meeting of the States, and while they act as members of the committee of the States.

In determining questions in the United States in Congress assembled, each State shall have one vote.

Freedom of speech and debate in Congress shall not be impeached or questioned in any court, or place out of Congress, and the members of Congress shall be protected in their persons from arrests and imprisonments, during the time of their going to and from, and attendance on Congress, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

ART. VI. No State without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, shall send any embassy to, or receive any embassy from, or enter into any conference, agreement, alliance or treaty with any king, prince or State; nor shall any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States, or any of them, accept of any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatever from any king, prince or foreign State; nor shall the United States in Congress assembled, or any of them, grant any title of nobility.

No two or more States shall enter into any treaty, confederation or alliance whatever between them, without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, specifying accurately the purposes for which the same is to be entered into, and how long it shall continue.

No State shall lay any imposts or duties, which may interfere with any stipulations in treaties, entered into by the United States in Congress assembled, with any king, prince or State, in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by Congress, to the courts of France and Spain.

No vessels of war shall be kept up in time of peace by any State, except such number only, as shall be deemed necessary by the United States in Congress assembled, for the defence of such State, or its trade; nor shall any body of forces be kept up by any State, in time of peace, except such number only, as in the judgment of the United States in Congress assembled, shall be deemed requisite to garrison the forts necessary for the defence of such State; but every State shall always keep up a well regulated and disciplined militia, sufficiently armed and accoutred, and shall provide and constantly have ready for use, in public stores, a due number of field pieces and tents, and a proper quantity of arms, ammunition and camp equipage.

No State shall engage in any war without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, unless such State be actually invaded by enemies, or

Governor and Council ordered the whole of the standing militia, west of Connecticut river, together with two regiments on the east side of that river, to march to New York city. This order was promptly carried into effect, although greatly prejudicial to the agricultural interests of the State. This body of militia comprised fourteen regiments, and at a moderate computation,

shall have received certain advice of a resolution being formed by some nation of Indians to invade such State, and the danger is so imminent as not to admit of a delay, till the United States in Congress assembled, can be consulted; nor shall any State grant commissions to any ships or vessels of war, nor letters of marque or reprisal, except it be after a declaration of war by the United States in Congress assembled, and then only against the Kingdom or State and the subjects thereof, against which war has been so declared, and under such regulations as shall be established by the United States in Congress assembled, unless such State be infested by pirates, in which case vessels of war may be fitted out for that occasion, and kept so long as the danger shall continue, or until the United States in Congress assembled, shall determine otherwise.

ART. VII. When land forces are raised by any State for the common defence, all officers of or under the rank of colonel, shall be appointed by the Legislature of each State respectively, by whom such forces shall be raised, or in such manner as such State shall direct, and all vacancies shall be filled up by the State which first made the appointment.

ART. VIII. All charges of war, and all other expences that shall be incurred for the common defence or general welfare, and allowed by the United States in Congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several States, in proportion to the value of all land within each State, granted to or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated according to such mode as the United States in Congress assembled, shall from time to time direct and appoint. The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the Legislatures of the several States within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled.

ART. IX. The United States in Congress assembled, shall have the sole and exclusive right and power of determining on peace and war, except in the cases mentioned in the sixth article—of sending and receiving ambassadors—entering into treaties and alliances, provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the Legislative power of the respective States shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners, as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities whatsoever—of establishing rules for deciding in all cases, what captures on land or water shall be legal, and in what manner prizes taken by land or naval forces in the service of the United States shall be divided or appropriated—of granting letters of marque and reprisal in times of peace—appointing courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and establishing courts for receiving and determining finally appeals in all cases of captures, provided that no member of Congress shall be appointed a judge of any of the said courts.

may be estimated to have amounted to at least ten thousand men. About the same time, a large proportion of the remainder of the standing militia, on the east side of Connecticut river, was called to the defence of New London, and to aid the inhabitants of Suffolk county, L. I. So that at this time, there were more than twenty thousand of the inhabitants of Connecticut in actual ser-

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The United States in Congress assembled, shall also be the last resort on appeal in all disputes and differences now subsisting or that hereafter may arise between two or more States concerning boundary, jurisdiction or any other cause whatever; which authority shall always be exercised in the manner following. Whenever the legislative or executive authority or lawful agent of any State in controversy with another shall present a petition to Congress stating the matter in question and praying for a hearing, notice thereof shall be given by order of Congress to the legislative or executive authority of the other State in controversy, and a day assigned for the appearance of the parties by their lawful agents, who shall then be directed to appoint by joint consent, commissioners or judges to constitute a court for hearing and determining the matter in question: but if they cannot agree, Congress shall name three persons out of each of the United States, and from the list of such persons each party shall alternately strike out one, the petitioners beginning, until the number shall be reduced to thirteen; and from that number not less than seven, nor more than nine names as Congress shall direct, shall in the presence of Congress be drawn out by lot, and the persons whose names shall be so drawn or any five of them, shall be commissioners or judges, to hear and finally determine the controversy, so always as a major part of the judges who shall hear the cause shall agree in the determination: and if either party shall neglect to attend at the day appointed, without shewing reasons, which Congress shall judge sufficient, or being present shall refuse to strike, the Congress shall proceed to nominate three persons out of each State, and the Secretary of Congress shall strike in behalf of such party absent or refusing; and the judgment and sentence of the court to be appointed, in the manner before prescribed, shall be final and conclusive; and if any of the parties shall refuse to submit to the authority of such court, or to appear or defend their claim or cause, the court shall nevertheless proceed to pronounce sentence, or judgment, which shall in like manner be final and decisive, the judgment or sentence and other proceedings being in either case transmitted to Congress, and lodged among the acts of Congress for the security of the parties concerned; provided that every commissioner, before he sits in judgment, shall take an oath to be administered by one of the Judges of the Supreme or Superior Court of the State, where the cause shall be tried, "well and truly to hear and determine the matter in question, according to the best of his judgment, without favor, affection or hope of reward:" provided also that no State shall be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States.

All controversies concerning the private right of soil claimed under different grants of two or more States, whose jurisdictions as they may respect such lands, and the States which passed such grants are adjusted, the said grants or either of them being at the same time claimed to have originated antecedent to such settlement of jurisdiction, shall on the petition of either party to the

vice, most of whom had been marched out of the State for the defence of New York.

Oliver Wolcott, Esq. was appointed Brigadier General, to command the militia sent to the city of New York.

In the beginning of September, the standing militia, together with the light-horse on the east side of Connecticut river, were

Congress of the United States, be finally determined as near as may be in the same manner as is before prescribed for deciding disputes respecting territorial jurisdiction between different States.

The United States in Congress assembled shall also have the sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the alloy and value of coin struck by their own authority, or by that of the respective States—fixing the standard of weights and measures throughout the United States—regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians, not members of any of the States, provided that the legislative right of any State within its own limits be not infringed or violated—establishing and regulating post offices from one State to another, throughout all the United States, and exacting such postage on the papers passing through the same as may be requisite to defray the expences of the said office—appointing all officers of the land forces, in the service of the United States, excepting regimental officers—appointing all the officers of the naval forces, and commissioning all officers whatever in the service of the United States—making rules for the government and regulation of the said land and naval forces, and directing their operations.

The United States in Congress assembled, shall have authority to appoint a committee, to sit in the recess of Congress, to be denominated "*A Committee of the States*," and to consist of one delegate from each State; and to appoint such other committees and civil officers as may be necessary for managing the general affairs of the United States under their direction—to appoint one of their number to preside, provided that no person be allowed to serve in the office of president more than one year in any term of three years—to ascertain the necessary sums of money to be raised for the service of the United States; and to appropriate and apply the same for defraying the public expences—to borrow money, or emit bills on the credit of the United States, transmitting every half year to the respective States an account of the sums of money so borrowed or emitted—to build and equip a navy—to agree upon the number of land forces, and to make requisitions from each State for its quota, in proportion to the number of white inhabitants in such State; which requisition shall be binding, and thereupon the Legislature of each State shall appoint the regimental officers, raise the men, and clothe, arm, and equip them in a soldier like manner, at the expence of the United States, and the officers and men so clothed, armed and equipped shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled: But if the United States in Congress assembled shall, on consideration of circumstances judge proper that any State should not raise men, or should raise a smaller number than its quota, and that any other State should raise a greater number of men than the quota thereof, such extra number shall be raised, officered, clothed, armed and equipped in the same manner as the quota of such State, unless the Legislature of such State shall judge that such extra number cannot be safely spared out of the same, in

ordered to march with the utmost expedition, to Westchester, near New York. This detachment was commanded by Brig. Gen. Gurdon Saltonstall, of New London.

During the disastrous campaign on Long Island, and in and about New York, in the months of August, September, and October, the Connecticut forces comprised a large proportion of

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which case they shall raise, officer, clothe, arm and equip as many of such extra number as they judge can be safely spared. And the officers and men so clothed, armed and equipped, shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled.

The United States in Congress assembled shall never engage in a war, nor grant letters of marque and reprisal, in time of peace, nor enter into any treaties or alliances, nor coin money, nor regulate the value thereof, nor ascertain the sums and expences necessary for the defence and welfare of the United States, or any of them, nor emit bills, nor borrow money on the credit of the United States, nor appropriate money, nor agree upon the number of vessels of war, to be built or purchased, or the number of land or sea forces to be raised, nor appoint a commander-in-chief of the army or navy, unless nine States assent to the same; nor shall a question on any other point, except for adjourning from day to day be determined, unless by the votes of a majority of the United States in Congress assembled.

The Congress of the United States shall have power to adjourn to any time within the year, and to any place within the United States, so that no period of adjournment be for a longer duration than the space of six months, and shall publish the journal of their proceedings monthly, except such parts thereof relating to treaties, alliances or military operations, as in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the delegates of each State on any question shall be entered on the journal, when it is desired by any delegate; and the delegates of a State, or any of them, at his or their request shall be furnished with a transcript of said journal, except such parts as are above excepted, to lay before the Legislatures of the several States.

ART. X. The committee of the States, or any nine of them, shall be authorized to execute, in the recess of Congress, such of the powers of Congress as the United States in Congress assembled, by the consent of nine States, shall from time to time think expedient to vest them with; provided that no power be delegated to the said committee, for the exercise of which, by the articles of confederation, the voice of nine States in the Congress of the United States assembled is required.

ART. XI. Canada acceding to this confederation, and joining in the measures of the United States, shall be admitted into, and entitled to all the advantages of this union: but no other colony shall be admitted into the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine States.

ART. XII. All bills of credit emitted, moneys borrowed, and debts contracted by, or under the authority of Congress, before the assembling of the United States, in pursuance of the present confederation, shall be deemed and considered as a charge against the United States, for payment and satisfaction whereof the said United States, and the public faith are hereby solemnly pledged.

Washington's army. The militia, called hastily from their homes, were badly provided with food and clothing, and suffered much from sickness and the hardships incident to war.

The regular troops from Connecticut were formed into a division, comprising two brigades. This division was commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph Spencer, and Brig. Gens. James Wadsworth,

**ART. XIII.** Every State shall abide by the determinations of the United States in Congress assembled, on all questions which by this confederation are submitted to them. And the articles of this confederation shall be inviolably observed by every State, and the union shall be perpetual; nor shall any alteration at any time hereafter be made in any of them; unless such alteration be agreed to in a Congress of the United States, and be afterwards confirmed by the Legislatures of every State.

These Articles shall be proposed to the Legislatures of all the United States, to be considered, and if approved of by them, they are advised to authorize their delegates, to ratify the same in the Congress of the United States; which being done, the same shall become conclusive.

Adjourned General Assembly, January 8th, 1778.

In the Lower House.

The foregoing Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union between the several United States of America, expressly named therein, being read and duly considered, and discussed article by article, is accepted and approved, and thereby ordered that a Bill be brought in especially instructing the delegates of this State in Congress to ratify the same.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

Dissented to in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Lower House.

Capt. Halsey, Mr. Mumford, and Col. Porter are appointed a committee to confer with such gentlemen as the Hon. Upper House shall appoint on the differing votes of the Houses on the matter aforesaid.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

In the Lower House.

On report of the committee of conference and reconsideration, the further consideration hereof is referred to the next session of this Assembly.

Test, )

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

Concurred in the Upper House.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

CONNECTICUT STATE RECORD, FEBRUARY, 1778.

The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union proposed by Congress, to be entered into by the thirteen United States of America, being laid before this Assembly, by his Excellency the Governor, were read and maturely considered—

and Samuel H. Parsons. The Connecticut forces constituted the nucleus of the army of Washington at this eventful period, and signalized themselves in all the achievements, and suffered more severely than any other portion of the army in this disastrous campaign. Huntington's regiment sustained a high character in the action on Long Island, and suffered a heavy loss there, as well as in the subsequent operations in Westchester county.—Douglass, Webb, and Silliman's regiments were engaged in various actions—in all of which they fought with great bravery.

The standing militia of the State sustained five heavy draughts for actual service in 1776. The first, a great draught from the western section, marched for the defence of New York. The

Whereupon Resolved, As the opinion of this Assembly that said Articles in general appear to be well adapted to cement and preserve the union of said States, to secure their freedom and independence, and promote their general welfare, but, that with some amendments they may be rendered more perfect, equitable and satisfactory—Wherefore the delegates of this State are hereby instructed to propose to the consideration of Congress the following amendments, viz.:

1st. That in the 8th Article as a rule for determining each State's proportion of the common expense instead of the value of the lands, buildings, &c., as expressed in said article, be inscribed the number of inhabitants in each State, this being in the opinion of this Assembly a more certain, equitable and practicable rule than the other. Trade and manufactures which employ and support great numbers of inhabitants being sources of wealth to a State as well as the produce of lands; besides it will be very difficult if not impossible to obtain such an estimate of the value of the lands and buildings in the United States as would do justice or give satisfaction to the several States.

2d. That next after the fifth paragraph in the 9th Article be inserted the following clause, viz.: Provided that no land army shall be kept up by the United States in time of peace, nor any officers or pensioners kept in pay by them who are not in actual service, except such as are or may be rendered unable to support themselves, by wounds received in battle in the service of said States, agreeable to the provisions already made by a resolution of Congress.

The foregoing amendments being agreed to, in substance, may be made in such manner and form as Congress shall think proper.

And whereas other amendments may be proposed by some of the other States, and it being highly expedient for the welfare and security of the said States that the articles of confederation be finally concluded and ratified as soon as possible.

Therefore Resolved, That the delegates of this State who shall be present in Congress, be, and they are hereby fully authorized and impowered in behalf of this State, to agree to and ratify the said articles of confederation with such amendments, if any be, as by them in conjunction with the delegates of the other States in Congress, shall be thought proper.



second, for the defence of New London and Long Island. The third, a great draught from the eastern section of the State, to Westchester county, N. Y. The fourth, for the defence of Rhode Island. This last detachment was commanded by Gen. Joseph Spencer, who had been recalled from his command in the State of New York. The fifth, was a draught from the extreme western section of the State, for the defence and protection of its western border, during the latter part of the year. This force was commanded by Maj. Gen. Wooster, who had recently returned from Canada, where he had been in service during the early part of the season.

In all these draughts, besides those employed for its own defence, probably more than fifteen thousand men marched from Connecticut.

The delegates to the General Assembly, which met at New Haven, in October, 1776, were called upon to discharge a great and perilous duty—to sanction the Declaration of Independence, which had, in July, been adopted by the Continental Congress. The members composing this Assembly, are entitled to great praise for their Roman firmness, and almost unprecedented unanimity, with the sword of British vengeance hanging over their heads. During the darkest period of the revolutionary struggle, they resolved on freedom or death, and boldly assumed the high functions of self-government.

The General Assembly, at the December session of this year, formed the militia of the State into six brigades. The Hon. David Wooster, of New Haven, and Jabez Huntington, of Norwich, were appointed Major Generals; and Hon. Eliphalet Dyer, of Windham, Gurdon Saltonstall, of New London, Oliver Wolcott, of Litchfield, Erastus Wolcott, of East Windsor, James Wadsworth, of Durham, and Gold S. Silliman, of Fairfield, were appointed Brigadier Generals.

Near the close of the year 1776, there were four regiments ordered to be raised, by enlistment, to join the army near New York, and continue in service until the 15th of March, 1777.—Samuel Whiting, Thaddeus Cook, John Ely, and Roger Enos, were appointed Colonels to command these regiments.

About the same time, a regiment of volunteers was authorized to be raised, to march to the aid of Gen. Washington. Noadiah Hooker was appointed Colonel of this regiment.



## CONNECTICUT, AND THE CAMPAIGN OF 1777—8.

THE campaign of 1777 opened by the invasion of Connecticut by the British, for the first time during the war. The following account of this invasion, is taken from the New London Gazette, of May 9th, 1777 :—

“ On Friday, the 25th inst. (April,) twenty-six of the enemy's ships appeared off Norwalk islands, standing in for Cedar Point,

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Sept. 21, 1777. By a petition of Ozias Marvin, of Norwalk, dated 21st Sept. 1777, it appears that at the time the British troops landed at Campo and marched to Danbury, the militia of Norwalk, Stamford, &c., were stationed the first night at Saugatuck, near where the enemy landed for the purpose of watching the movements of the enemy during the night—the weather was cold and chilly and the militia complained of the want of refreshments, and Mr. Marvin furnished them with forty-five gallons of rum, out of which he filled twenty-four case bottles to carry with them on their march to Danbury, together with sixty pounds of dried beef, eight pounds of sugar, &c. That the people generally near Campo, deserted their houses, and Capt. Marvin was with his company, during the night watching the enemy, and the next morning pursued them, and continued until they returned to their ships.

At the battle near Bennington, in Vermont, on the 16th of August, 1777, between a part of the British army, commanded by Gov. Skeen, and the militia under Gen. Stark, Gen. Burgoyne had detached his men, in number about 1500, composed of British troops and tories, to traverse the country as far as Bennington, as a terror to the new settlers of Vermont, and to procure provisions for the army, as well as to wreak his vengeance on such as had disregarded his calls of mercy, and indignantly slighted his proffered protection. Gov. Skeen had advantageously marched his men within five miles of the meeting house in Bennington, where for their security they erected breast works, which Gen. Stark saw would be a miserable protection, (who was providentially there with his brigade of militia,) and therefore determined to give him battle. And he invited Col. Simond's regiment of militia, from Berkshire county to assist him; a part of Col. Brown's regiment; the volunteers from the neighboring towns; and Col. Warner (of Connecticut) with a part of his regiment. The weather was fine, and between 3 and 4 o'clock, P. M., General Stark attacked the British in front and flank in three or four different places at the same instant. The action was extremely hot for nearly two hours. The flanking divisions carried their points to great advantage, when the front pressed on to their breast work with an ardor and patience unexpected by Gov. Skeen. The blaze of the guns of the opposite parties, reaching each other, the fire became uncomfortably hot, but the militia mounted their breast works,

where they anchored at 4 o'clock, P. M., and soon began landing their troops. By 10 o'clock, they had landed two brigades, consisting of upwards of two thousand men, who marched immediately for Danbury; where they arrived next day at 2 o'clock, P. M. The handful of Connecticut troops there, were obliged

amidst peals of thunder and flashes of lightning from their guns, without regarding their field pieces, when the enemy at once deserted their breast works and ran, and in five minutes their camp was in confusion, their battalions broken to pieces and fled in great haste; when our whole army pressed after them with redoubled ardor, pursued them about a mile, killed many of them, and took a great number of prisoners, and one field piece had fallen into the hands of the Americans. When they stopped to get breath, the enemy being reinforced, the American front fell back a few rods for convenience of ground, and being directed and collected by Col. Rossiter, and reinforced by Maj. Stratton, renewed the battle with redoubled ardor, and marched into their ranks with great impetuosity, and soon put them in confusion and to flight again, and pursued them about a mile and took many prisoners, three brass field pieces, when it became so dark they could follow them no farther. The enemy fled precipitately the next night towards the North river. Gov. Skenck in his surprise and consternation, fled on horseback. The Americans lost in killed, about forty-five men, and more than that number wounded. The baggage of the British fell into our possession. The number of prisoners taken were said to be about six hundred—two of their colonels mortally wounded, many inferior officers taken, and the general's aid-de-camp. Many of their soldiers deserted and joined the American army. This action was not only a crown for Gen. Stark, but it proved to the Americans his valor, prudence, and warlike spirit, and greatly endeared him to the soldiery of the country.

The following is the account given at the time by an eye witness, of the number of prisoners taken in the action, viz.: 2 colonels, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, 5 captains, 12 lieutenants, 4 ensigns, 3 surgeons, 2 Canadian officers, 1 baron, 398 Germans and 37 British privates, 38 Canadians, 175 Tories—total 680—two brass 4 pound cannon, two do. 3 pounders, one medicine wagon, and a quantity of baggage. [Connecticut Courant.]

A man by the name of Palmer, under Gen. Clinton, had been taken as a spy and brought into the camp of Gen. Putnam, at Peekskill, N. Y., and was found to be a Tory that had been made a lieutenant in the British service. Governor Tryon demanded his release, and threatened vengeance if he should be executed by the Americans. Gen. Putnam answered the demand as follows, to Gov. Tryon:

"Sir—Nathan Palmer, a lieutenant in your service, was taken in my camp as a spy; he was tried as a spy; he was condemned as a spy; and you may rest assured, sir, he shall be hanged as a spy.

"I have the honor to be, &c.

"ISRAEL PUTNAM.

"To His Excellency Gov. TRYON.

"P. S. Afternoon. He is hanged."

to evacuate the town, having previously secured a part of the stores, provisions, &c. The enemy, on their arrival, began burning and destroying the stores, houses, provisions, &c. On the appearance of the enemy, the country was alarmed; and early the next morning, Brig. Gen. Silliman, with about five hundred militia, (all that were collected,) pursued the enemy. At Red-

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In 1776, the red ground of the American flag was altered to thirteen blue and white stripes, as an emblem of the thirteen colonies united in a war for their liberty.

At the battle of Germantown, while Maj. Burnet was attending to a cannon, in turning round, a musket ball from the enemy cut off his cue, which fell upon the ground by his side without injuring him.

The following story shews the faithlessness and treachery of Indians.

A sargeant with twelve men, who, travelling through the woods in New Hampshire, on his way to the American army, his route being far from any settlement, the sargeant being familiar with the Indian character—early in the afternoon in a copse of woods, a number of Indians rushed out before them, apparently pleased to meet the sargeant and his men, and claimed to be their best friends, declared they had taken up the hatchet for the Americans, and would scalp the villainous English as they would so many wild cats—greeted the sargeant and his men by the appellation of brother, with a hearty shake of the hand, and soon left them. The sargeant after marching his men a short distance, halted them, and informed them they should all die before the next morning; that the friendship of the Indians was a fiction, and they would see them again before morning. When night came, they encamped near a stream of water, which was a protection on one side; they then fell a tree about the size of a man's body, kindled a large fire, then cut the tree into thirteen pieces about the length of their bodies, and rolled each nicely in their blankets, placed their hats on the ends of the logs and placed them before the fire, at such distance as each log should be taken for a man wrapped in his blanket. They then placed themselves behind the limbs of the fallen tree; when it became dark, they with loaded guns, with a bright fire, and with a constant watch, kept perfect silence. As the fire began to get low, a tall Indian was discovered, moving cautiously and skulking Indian like, about the premises; full of suspicion he crept forward, counted his thirteen men quietly sleeping as he supposed by the fire; he silently retired; another slyly crept up and counted the men and retired; when the party of sixteen Indians came up, gazed at the logs until they were satisfied the thirteen men were in a sound sleep, they took good aim at the logs, discharged their guns, gave the horrid war whoop and stepped forward to murder and scalp the sargeant and his men; the sargeant and his men took deliberate aim in the brush, and not an Indian was left to tell the result of their expedition.

1777. Solomon Leet, of Guilford, on the 15th of January, 1778, stated in his petition to the General Assembly, holden at Hartford, in said January, that on the 17th day of June, 1777, the enemy landed at Sachem's Head, in Guilford,

ding, he was joined by Maj. Gen. Wooster, and Brig. Gen. Arnold. The heavy rain all the afternoon, retarded the march of our troops so much, that they did not reach Bethel—a village two miles from Danbury—till 11 o'clock at night, much fatigued, and their arms rendered useless by being wet. It was thought prudent to refresh the men, and wait the attack of the enemy on

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and set fire to his house, and two barns, which were consumed, with all his household furniture, and many other articles of value which he had caused to be appraised, with an inventory; and asked the Assembly for relief, which was granted.

A Letter from John Brooks, to the Author of this Work.

1841. My young friend and neighbor called on me in your behalf, to give some account of the occurrences which took place in Stratford, in the time of the revolutionary war. When that commenced I was but eleven years of age; my recollection of things which took place in Stratford, during that period, may not be very correct, as I have only to depend on memory. Capt. John Brooks, who was my father, and one who took a very active part in the cause throughout the war, and of whom I shall have occasion to speak hereafter, was chased in from sea by the ship Asia, (after the battle of Lexington) which was the first British armed ship that arrived on our part of the coast, and soon after made her appearance in Long Island Sound, and anchored off Stratford. This caused great alarm amongst all classes of the citizens, who did not know how to act, whether for or against their king; but in a short time many of the most wealthy inhabitants became strong royalists, and some received commissions to raise forces and join the British. This was particularly the case with a very likely young man by the name of Chapman, who was sent off with others under a flag of truce by the civil authorities to ascertain from the commander of the ship what was his request or design. At this time Chapman received a lieutenant's commission to raise forces under the king, who did absolutely succeed in enticing away several of the young men from Stratford, all of whom took up arms against their country. The ship remained some days at anchor, in which time there was a communication kept up between her commander and the inhabitants, who found a ready market for what they had to spare. By this time people had got pretty well settled down in their principles; those who became Tories, were so out of honest principle, thinking it a heinous crime to rebel against their lawful sovereign; the contest soon became warm, and Captain Brooks who took up strongly in the cause, soon became a conspicuous character, and was burthened with several appointments, both by town and State; in particular, he was Barrack master, (as it was then called) for all the troops passing and repassing through the town, in consequence of which the small pox broke out in his family. This was in January, 1777, and was occasioned by the entertainment of some prisoners on their way home, who were taken at the surrender of fort Washington, and were landed at Stratford Point, by a flag of truce out of New York, which was then in possession of the British. These prisoners had been long confined, in different prisons, when an exchange took place; they had been much exposed to small pox; and although every precau-

their return. Early on the next morning, (which proved rainy,) the whole were in motion; two hundred men remained with Gen. Wooster, and about four hundred were detached under Gen. Arnold and Gen. Silliman, on the road leading to Norwalk. At 9 o'clock, A. M., intelligence was received, that the enemy had taken the road leading to Norwalk, of which Gen. Wooster was

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tion was taken in Capt. Brooks' family to avoid taking it, yet it did take place, and every body at that day was so ignorant of the disorder, it was impossible to keep it from spreading; consequently, that very winter and the spring following, there were about six hundred persons, who went through with it, and not more than four or six deaths took place. As the war progressed Stratford became pretty notorious for what was called illicit trade in boats with the British, who had possession of Long Island, and which made it very convenient for those engaged in it, to export small articles, such as hams, cheese, butter, eggs, and small stock of all kinds. Some of these boats were captured by the guard, which was constantly kept up, and immediately libelled, judged, and divided among themselves, and the men set at liberty. One of these boats, however, was not so fortunate, being hailed by the sentinel, as she was rowing out of the harbor, (laden as above) and not paying any regard to the challenge, was fired upon by the sentinel, by which two men were killed dead, on which the boat surrendered; this happened at a place called Newfield, then a part of Stratford, but now is the city of Bridgeport; there were also two whale boats belonging to a company of four or six persons, in Stratford, which frequently were absent a week or more at a time, and it was strongly suspected they were carrying on an illicit trade to Long Island, neither of these boats, however, were ever captured, yet soon after their return from a cruise, there was no difficulty in procuring goods of any kind from the owners. And it turned out after the war was ended, that these very men who owned these boats were absolutely employed by Gen. Washington as spies, to obtain such information in New York of the movements of the British as they best could, and forward to head quarters, on their return. I was well acquainted with every one of the men who preformed this service, namely, Capt. John Barlow, who was a natural born citizen of Stratford, Isaac Whippo, George Smith, Sylvanus Dickeson, and one or two others, whom I do not recollect; these last mentioned were refugees from Long Island, whigs; they are, however, all dead; but the two last named, Smith and Dickeson, did each of them live to obtain a pension from government, on producing their commissions for this service rendered in the secret capacity of spies. This was one of Washington's ways of procuring information from the enemy; they had free access to the city, bought goods, and returned, which served them free from all suspicion while there.

A singular circumstance took place in Stratford, which was I believe, in '79 or '80. Salt had become so scarce and hard to obtain, that the civil authority of Stratford concerted a plan to obtain a vessel load of salt out of New York, under color of a flag, (which was nothing more or less, than a fair trade with the enemy.) This plan was executed by a man by the name of Vandyke, who at that time resided in Stratford, who was not only a good royalist, but an Episcopal clergyman, and was well acquainted in New York; he had liberty

advised, and pursued them. He came up with them about 11 o'clock, when a smart skirmishing ensued, in which Gen. Wooster, who behaved with great intrepidity, unfortunately received a wound by a musket ball, through his groin, which, it is feared, will prove mortal. Gen. Arnold, by a forced march across the country, reached Ridgefield by 11 o'clock, and having posted his

to procure a load of salt out of New York, which he did; about 1500 or 2000 bushels; it was brought to Stratford, sold, and distributed amongst the farmers, for which he received (\$5) five round dollars per bushel. Some of the hot headed whigs highly disapproved of the measure, but they were those of the poorer class, and who did not make much use of the article. Capt. Brooks (however true it may be) was said to be the principal contriver of this supply of salt, making a necessity of the case, it at any rate met with the approbation of the whigs, and soon passed off as a dream.

Stratford suffered during the war in the loss of several of their valuable men in battle. At the burning of Fairfield, a Lieut. Blackman was slain; and at the battle of Ridgefield, on the return of the British from the burning of Danbury, a Lieut. Middlebrooks was killed; Lieut. William Thompson was slain; Col. John Benjamin, was shot with three buckshot lodged in his neck, which he survived, and lived many years after; Lieut. Deforest was shot in the leg, and Capt. Ebenezer Coe, who commanded the same company, was shot in the head, which deprived him of part of one ear, and his right eye, he however recovered and lived many years after the war ended.—I once asked him how it was, that so many officers were killed and wounded—he said it was because the privates run off just before they were flanked by the British. Arnold commanded our troops on this occasion; he had his horse shot from under him.

I have endeavored to put together from recollection these scattered ideas; if they should prove in any way to your undertaking for good, you are welcome to make such use of them as you please; making all reasonable allowances for being written by one who now is almost 78 years of age.

I am, sir, yours,

JOHN BROOKS.

In consequence of the reduced situation of the inhabitants of Danbury, the selectmen of said town, in May, 1777, applied to the Legislature for aid—In which memorial they stated that the British troops united with the tories in their hostile incursion, under the pretence of destroying the public stores deposited at Danbury, had wantonly burned about twenty dwelling houses, and many stores and barns of great value; and on their retreat collected and drove off all the cattle horses, and sheep, they were able to find, which had reduced many of their inhabitants from competence, to poverty and want; that nothing was left them but distress; that it was quite impossible for the town to afford relief to all the sufferers; and that they particularly believed that had not the public stores been deposited in Danbury, the attention of the enemy would not have been drawn to that place, or their vengeance fallen upon its citizens. And therefore that the Assembly would aid those in immediate want, who could not subsist without—and appoint a committee in behalf of all the sufferers, to estimate losses, and report to said Assembly, and in some sort bind up their wounds.

small party—(being joined by about one hundred men,) of five hundred men, waited the approach of the enemy, who were soon discovered advancing in a column, with three field pieces in front, and three in rear, and large flank guards, of near two hundred men in each. At noon, they began discharging their artillery, and were soon within musket shot, when a smart action ensued

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Immediately after the aforesaid Petition Gov. Trumbull issued the following

**PROCLAMATION :**

May, 1777. Among the various calamities which at present attend this, and the United States of America, and the impending judgments which threaten us for our multiplied sins and transgressions against the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe; none afford a more melancholy prospect, and discover a greater obduracy and insensibility than when the enemy enter our borders and are spreading terror and devastation in their way among numerous helpless and defenceless families, whom the enemy through either the remains of pity, or in their precipitate marches have left not altogether stript and plundered; that our own people of the militia, and others raised among us of the continental army should be so abandoned to all the feelings of humanity as to rob and plunder the remains of what the enemy have left to the poor and distressed inhabitants; and some have been even so daring as after the enemy are gone off, to set fire to houses and buildings, under the pretence of their belonging to some inimical inhabitants of this State. These representations have been made to the General Assembly of this State, by the most pathetic memorial of numbers, who have in this way been the unhappy sufferers in the last excursion of the enemy to Danbury; whereupon, and in pursuance of a resolve of the General Assembly of this State, at their present session—I do issue forth this Proclamation, exhorting and demanding of all and every person or persons, either militia or others, who have been guilty of plundering the property and effects of any of the inhabitants of this State, in the late alarm at Danbury, or who have been aiding or assisting therein, immediately, and without delay to return or cause to be returned to some one of the authority, or selectmen of the town, where such offending person belongs, all such goods or effects as they have taken or found, either in the house or houses, highway or fields of any person or persons whatsoever, or pay the value of such as may be consumed or destroyed, and give to such authority or selectmen, a true account as near as possible of the articles; and also of the town, society, and place where the same was taken or found, at least within; and thereupon, on his or their so truly and faithfully forwarding and delivering up all the goods or effects plundered, taken or found as aforesaid, or paying for the same, shall be discharged from all and every prosecution and penalty, by reason of any such breach of the laws of this State on account of such misdemeanors as aforesaid—But on hearing or having notice of this Proclamation, any person or persons who shall have plundered, taken or found the goods, property, or effects of any inhabitant of this State as aforesaid, and shall neglect to surrender or deliver up to one of the authority or selectmen as aforesaid, such goods, property or effects so taken or found as aforesaid, or give notice thereof, and of the articles and effects so found or taken within the time limited by this Proclamation, such person or persons so offending as aforesaid, shall suffer the full pains and penalties of the laws of this



between the whole, which continued about an hour ; in which, our men behaved with great spirit, but being overpowered by numbers, were obliged to give way, though not until a small breastwork was raised and thrown across the way, at which Gen. Arnold had taken post with about two hundred men. The rest of our small body were posted on the flank, and acted with

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State against theft and larceny—and the civil authority and selectmen of each and every town within this State, from which any of the militia or others marched to the relief of the town of Danbury, or any other towns in the enemy's route on their late incursion, are hereby authorized and directed to make the strictest enquiry into all and every plunder, goods and effects found or taken on occasion of the alarm aforesaid, by any and every person, in such their respective towns ; and in order to make full discovery of such goods and effects, they or the major part of them are further authorized, empowered and directed to call before them every suspected person or persons, as also any others who may be supposed to have any knowledge thereof, and him or them examined upon oath touching the premises, and upon their finding just ground to suspect any person or persons to be guilty of any such plundering, and taking the goods, property or effects of any inhabitant of this State as aforesaid, or concealing the same, and who shall not deliver up the same or give notice thereof as aforesaid, but shall still detain, or secrete, or conceal the same after the time limited as aforesaid, and the authority aforesaid, shall make a memorandum in writing, of the evidence they shall find, and such person or persons shall be liable on conviction, before any court proper to try the same, to suffer all the pains, penalties and forfeitures to be inflicted on those guilty of theft or concealing of stolen goods, as by law liable to. And it shall be the duty of the grand jury men of such town, on notice of such enquiry, to call upon the authority of said town as aforesaid, and on finding proper evidence to satisfy his conscience, to make due presentment thereof according to law. And whenever it shall be found on enquiry that any person or persons belonging to the continental army, have been guilty of plundering as aforesaid, or any other plundering or burning of houses, or buildings of any person or persons belonging to this State, by whatever name they may be called, whether friendly or inimical, whig or tory, they shall make further enquiry to find out and know to what State, battalion and company such offender belongs, and the same with their names, send to the Governor of this State, to be by him transmitted to some general officer proper to take notice of the same, that justice may be done against such high handed offender ; that all may be made to know that the persons and properties of all the inhabitants of this State, whatever their character or denominations may be, all shall be protected against such daring violations thereof, that every one in this time of calamity remain secure in his person, property and possessions against every unjust invader thereof.

The following letter is from a gentleman of strict integrity, in the town of Westport, and in the neighborhood of Compo Hill and Cedar Point.

WESTPORT, July 12th, 1841.

Dear Sir—I received your line a few days since, and in answer to which I remark, I had not forgotten your request, but was writing to H., an o'd gen-



great spirit. The General had his horse shot under him, when the enemy were within ten yards of him, but luckily received no hurt: recovering himself, he drew a pistol and shot the soldier, who was advancing with his fixed bayonet. He then ordered his troops to retreat, through a shower of small and grape shot. In this action, the enemy suffered very considerably, leaving

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tleman who was absent, who I presume would give a more detailed account of the proceedings of the revolution than any other person about here, but I have not seen him: I therefore give you so far as I have been able to get the facts wanted. The British landed on the East side of Saugatuck river at Cedar Point, so called, at the lower end of Compo, and marched up and formed on Compo hill, about one mile from Cedar Point; they then marched up Compo street, at the head of the street, at the country road, they were fired upon by a company of Americans, and the Americans fled after the first fire; they killed a number of the British, and the enemy continued their route about a mile North of the country road, to Cross Highway, as it is called, and then they filed off eastward, on said highway until they came to the road that leads from Fairfield to Danbury, about five miles North of the court house, in Fairfield, and about a mile North of Greenfield meeting house; they then took the road passing through Weston by the church, and through Reading on the Ridgo, so called, by the church, (which they injured very much) to Danbury, and they returned by the way of Ridgefield and Wilten. Our people had proposed to give them battle on the West side of Saugatuck river, on Old Hill, so called, which position commanded the bridge across the river, and the only place it was supposed they would attempt to come. Our people had quite a force there with a number of field pieces, with (Arnold) at their head. The British ascertained the position of our troops, when they were within about a mile of them, and instead of persisting in gaining the bridge to cross the river, which position our people had the complete command of. They filed off to the North, up the river about one mile, piloted it is said by a man by the name of John French, a tory; when they forded the river and passed down on the East side, and got two field pieces on Couch Hill opposite. When our people came, they fired upon them to prevent their crossing over on the bridge, but they did pass and pressed hard upon them down Compo street, and pursued them until they got under the cover of the shipping; it was thought they would have captured them had they not crossed the river above them. There were two families that were tories, viz.: one by the name of Lockwood and one by the name of Cable; it is said, that Jabez Lockwood, one of the family, piloted them to Danbury; and it is also said that Jabez Cable was pilot of the fleet to Cedar Point. There were, in 1781, a party of two companies of refugees, in number about two hundred, came over and landed at Cedar Point; they divided into two divisions, one went on the North and the other the South side of Compo hill; they had some fighting with the coast guard, but they were so far superior to the guard, they gave way; they burnt the guard house. There were a number killed on both sides, and some taken prisoners; they plundered a number of cattle, sheep, hogs, and fowls, &c. &c.; they took every thing they could lay their hands on; but the

about thirty dead and wounded on the field, besides a number unknown, buried. Here we had the misfortune to lose Lieut. Col. Gold, one subaltern, and several privates, killed and wounded. It was found impossible to rally our troops, and Gen. Arnold ordered a stand to be made at Saugatuck bridge, where it was expected the enemy would pass.

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Americans had assembled in such numbers that they made a hasty retreat, leaving a good deal of their booty behind them, which they could not get on board the shipping, and came very near being captured.

January 3, 1777. Several British transports were loading with wood, &c., at the East end of Long Island, guarded by some ships of war, who pilfered and robbed the inhabitants of their effects.

Last Tuesday evening, thirty Tories and soldiers under guard arrived at Middletown, taken at Hackinsack. N. Y., by a party of Gen. Parsons's brigade.

A sloop, Wheeler Brown, master, which sailed from New London with provisions for our army, was taken at Norwalk by a barge, of a British-man-of-war.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., went from New London with a flag of truce, to New York, to exchange prisoners, and returned with forty seamen he had exchanged, most of whom were from Rhode Island, and on his way from New York, put into New Haven, where an express from Gen. Washington to Gen. Heath, with the news that early on the 26th of Dec. 1776, Gen. Washington with 3,000 men crossed the Delaware, and at 8 o'clock in the morning, engaged the enemy at Trenton, N. J., with about 1,600 men, and the weather cold, with rain and hail, and in 35 minutes routed the whole, and took 919 prisoners, exclusive of killed and wounded; 1 colonel, 2 lieut. colonels, 3 majors, 4 captains, 8 lieutenants, 12 ensigns, 1 judge advocate, 2 surgeon's mates, 92 sargeants, 20 drummers, 9 musicians, 25 officers' servants, 740 rank and file. Took 6 brass cannon, two of which were 12 pounders; 1,200 small arms; 4 standards; 12 brass drums, with trumpets, swords, 6 wagons, and a number of horses, &c.—[Connecticut Gazette.]

January 10th, 1777. On the 6th of January, nine British ships passed New London to the East.

January 17, 1776. Accounts stated that Gen. Washington's army on the 11th of January, consisted of 22,000 effective men.

Arrived at Milford a flag of truce, from New York, with more than 200 American prisoners, whose rueful faces too well depicted their ill treatment, while prisoners in New York; twenty died on their passage from New York to Milford, and twenty more died at Milford, and thirty-one were sick.

The last day of January was appointed a day of fasting and prayer throughout New England.

An extract of a letter from a prisoner of distinction in New York, from Connecticut, dated 26th Dec. 1776.—“The distress of the prisoners cannot be communicated by words, twenty or thirty die every day, they lie in heaps, unburied;

“ At 9 o'clock, A. M., the 28th, about five hundred men were collected at Saugatuck bridge, including part of two companies of Col. Lamb's battalion of artillery, with three field pieces, under command of Lieut. Col. Oswald; one field piece, with part of the artillery company from Fairfield, 60 continental troops, and the companies of volunteers from New Haven, with whom Gens.

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what number of my countrymen have died by cold and hunger, perished for the wants of the necessaries of life!—I have seen it!

“ This, sir, is the boasted British clemency—I had nigh perished—New England people can have no idea of such barbarous policy; nothing can stop such treatment but retaliation. It is due to the manes of our murdered countrymen, to protect the survivors, rather than experience again their barbarity and insults. May I fall by the swords of the Hessians. I am, &c.”

January 24, 1777. On the 13th of January, 1777, Col. Ethan Allen was a prisoner on parole in the city of New York.

On the 19th of January, twenty British officers and soldiers arrived at Hartford from the westward; and one hundred and sixty more were on their way to Hartford, a part of three hundred taken at Princeton.

Capt. Lodowick Champlin in a sloop from New London, was taken and carried into New York.

January 31, 1777. Ten sail of British ships and two brigs, supposed to be the ships from the East end of Long Island, on the 26th January, and on the 28th several other British ships went down Long Island sound. On the 29th of January, twenty-one sail of the enemy's ships passed New London harbor up the sound; the last supposed to be the fleet of transports that had been taking in British troops at Newport, bound to New York.

On the 26th of January, a flag of truce that went from Saybrook, with prisoners to New York, returned to New London harbor, but were not allowed to come within some leagues of the city, and to remain there but one night.

The privateer, American Revenue, Capt. Champlin, of New London, took a brig from Quebec, and sent her into Bedford, laden with fish.

Feb. 7, 1777. A ship of war of 36 guns, (the Niger) lay at the West end of Fisher's Island, and on the 3d hoisted sail, and the same day drove on shore at Narraganset beach. A large schooner, a prize to the privateer, American Revenue, of New London, the schooner was from Ireland, laden with flour, bread, butter, &c., and two bales of linen, taken out by the privateer. After the prize was on shore, the British sent several boats to set her on fire, which they effected, but the fire was soon extinguished by the inhabitants collected on shore, with several cannon, by which they preserved the vessel, though an incessant fire from the ship-of-war was kept up; several of the enemy were killed; the prize had 800 firkins of choice butter on board, &c.

Feb. 21, 1777. On the 16th of February, Capt. Clay, from Connecticut river, was drove on shore on Narraganset beach by two British frigates, who fired at

Arnold and Silliman took post about two miles above the bridge. Soon after the enemy appeared in sight, their rear was attacked by Col. Huntington, (commanding a party of five hundred men,) who sent to Gen. Arnold for instructions, and for some officer to assist him. Gen. Silliman was ordered to his assistance. The enemy, finding our troops advantageously posted, made a halt

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his vessel, and sent barges to take possession of her, but were repulsed by the people on shore, who beat off the boats, which vessel afterwards arrived at Stonington.

On the 17th of February, several Tories at Great Neck, (in New London) were found in traitorous acts, and taken into custody, and Pardon Tabor committed to jail, the others confined under a safe guard.

On the 16th, a flag of truce went from New London with prisoners, to the Amazon frigate, near Gardner's Island, who were exchanged for Capt. Palmer's people, who had been taken by the enemy.

March 7, 1777. Capt. Bonticue, who sailed from New Haven January 1st, for Europe, was taken two days out, by the Union ship-of-war, and carried to Newport, where all but two were exchanged, one of whom, a native of New Haven, turned traitor, and joined the British.

A British frigate and two or three tenders appeared in New Haven harbor, and in the night, one of her boats came close in to the Eastern point, but the guards being seen, the boat immediately made off.

The unfortunate prisoners, forty-six in number, landed on the 3d of March from the Glasgow transport ship, (Capt. Craige) were buried at New Haven, and a list of their names published.

March 14th, 1777.. On the 8th of March, eleven sail of men-of-war and transports, a part of the British fleet from Rhode Island, appeared at the West end of Fisher's Island standing westward, they drifted back of the point, and came to anchor, the next day made sail, and about noon anchored the North side of the Island, and on the 11th made sail to the eastward, the fleet being so near New London, the militia from the neighboring towns were ordered to New London for the defence of the harbor, among whom the Norwich light infantry company, Col. C. Leffingwell, made a martial appearance; and his men were neatly dressed in uniform. After the fleet left, Col. Leffingwell went to Fisher's Island with several boats to make discoveries. Mr. Brown a citizen of the Island informed him, that the fleet took 106 sheep, 8 oxen, 11 cows, 22 yearlings, 26 swine, 24 turkeys, 4 doz. fowls, 123 bushels of corn, 100 bushels of potatoes, 5½ tons of hay, wood, pork, bed clothes, sheets, &c. &c.; that the armed ships were the Amazon, Greyhound, and Lark, with seven transports; that they landed three companies of British, and three companies of Hessian troops. Mr. Brown informed Col. Leffingwell that there were twenty ships at anchor in Gardner's bay, though but eleven could be discovered; besides two ships then coming through Plumb Gut. The stock taken from the Island was mostly paid for by the British.

and after some little time, wheeled off to the left, and forded Saugatuck river three miles above the bridge. Gen. Arnold, observing this motion, ordered the whole to march directly for the bridge, in order to attack the enemy in flank ;—Gen. Silliman's division, at the same time, to attack their rear. The enemy, by running at full speed, had past the bridge on Fairfield side, with

March 14, 1777. On the 8th of March, three men went from New London to Fisher's Island, in a sail boat after corn, as none could be purchased at New London, and while they were loading their boat at the Island, they discovered a number of troops landed on the Island ; they started for their boat to escape, but were pursued by the troops, and they reached the boat which lay about pistol shot from the shore ; 300 men, in two divisions, had reached the shore, when an officer was ordered on shore, with a threat to fire upon them if they refused. The three men of the boat disregarded their threats and command, and began to hoist sail, the enemy fired at them, and continued their fire until the sail boat was out of their reach, being (about 15 minutes) they also attempted to reach them in a sail boat which ran aground on a point ; the three men stated that at least one thousand shots were fired at them, and one hundred struck the boat, but neither of them were killed or hurt.

March 21, 1777. A small sail boat owned by Samuel Beebe, of Stonington, was taken by a boat from the Amazon, in the sound, (Capt. Jacobs) the same day Beebe's boat, armed with two swivels, and twenty men with small arms, took the schooner Olive, (Bulkley master) loaded with 1600 bushels of salt, &c. On the 15th, the Amazon anchored without the light house, at New London, and sent a flag into New London, to propose an exchange of prisoners—on the 16th they landed Capt. Bulkley, his mate, and Mr. C. Cunningham, (a passenger from New Haven on board the Olive) on Fisher's Island ; tho' said Cunningham sailed with Capt. Mansfield, and was taken within two hours sail of Martinico. The prisoners were well treated by Capt. Jacobs, as they reported, entirely different from most of his profession, who had been stationed on this coast ; among whom the name of Wallace would long be remembered by hundreds who had felt and seen his savage conduct in firing upon single and defenceless houses, burning and destroying private property, and the abuse of women and children, and those whom age had rendered incapable of resistance.

Twenty-five Tories from Long Island, landed near Norwalk ; went into the country ; plundered a gentleman's house, took the owner (towards whom they owed a grudge) prisoner. On their return, they fell in with three officers from the Saw Pits, whom they also made prisoners ; and a guard of men on the shore, and went to Long Island with the whole.

March 28, 1777. Seventeen men of the enemy landed from a tender and took a guard of fifteen militia, at Middlesex, by means of a cowardly militia captain (a few weeks previous to the above date.)

A flag of truce with ten prisoners went from New London to Newport, and exchanged them for Capt. Tinker and his people, on board the Unicorn man-of-war, taken a short time before on their way from the West Indies to New London.

their main body, before our troops could cross it. Gen. Silliman, finding it impossible to overtake the enemy in their rear, proceeded to the bridge, where the whole were formed. They marched in two columns, with two field pieces on the right, the other on the left of the enemy, when a smart skirmishing and firing of field pieces ensued, which continued about three hours. The enemy,

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The sloop Polly, of Killingworth, Capt. Griffin, was taken by the enemy in the West Indies.

On the 27th, a British ship passed New London to the eastward.

April 18, 1777. On the 12th of April, about thirty sail of shipping, British men-of-war and transports, passed New London from Newport, towards New York; the Monday after, a large ship went down the sound, and another went up the sound.

A large prize ship was taken by the American ship Defence, Capt. Smedley, and arrived at Bedford. The prize was reported to have 3,000 barrels of provisions on board.

April 25, 1777. The armed brig Defence, (Capt. Smedley,) owned by this State, and the sloop American Revenue, (Capt. Champlin,) of New London, had arrived in a safe port from a cruise, and had taken four valuable prizes.

Capt. Wattles, in a small sloop letter of marque, owned in Norwich, arrived at New London, who on his outward bound passage took a brig from Europe with a valuable cargo, which was sold in South Carolina.

The Captain Stillman, Lewis and Lay, outward bound, from New London and Stonington, and one other vessel, were all taken by a British frigate near Block Island, on the 21st of April.

May 2d, 1777. On the 19th of April, the prize brig Grog, Capt. Smedley's third prize, arrived at Plymouth, which belonged to a fleet of thirty-two sail from Cork, bound to the West Indies.

May 9th, 1777. A few days previous to the 5th of May, a number of tories from New Milford and other places, were committed to gaol in Hartford.

On the 7th of May, several British ships were seen off New London harbor; and on the 9th and for several days previous, a British frigate had been plying up and down the sound.

May 23, 1777. Last week several persons in Norwich, Windham, and the North Parish of New London, were taken on suspicion of toryism, and some of them committed to gaol.

Saturday last, a considerable number of ships and other vessels, with some flat bottomed boats, appeared off Stamford.

Wednesday last, about twenty sails of the enemy's ships went up the sound past New London.

having gained the high hill of Compo, several attempts were made to dislodge them, but without effect. The enemy landed a number of fresh troops to cover their embarkation, which they effected a little before sunset ; weighed anchor immediately, and stood across the Sound for Huntington, on Long Island.

“ Our loss cannot be exactly ascertained, no return being made.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Parsons to Governor Trumbull, dated New Haven, May 30th, 1777.

“ I sincerely congratulate your Honor on the success of our arms on Long Island. Col. Meigs left Sachem's Head on Friday, at 1 o'clock, P. M., with a detachment of 160 men, officers included, and landed within three miles of Sag Harbor, about one at night ; and having made the proper arrangement for attacking the enemy in five different places, proceeded in the greatest order and silence within twenty rods of the enemy, when they rushed on with fixed bayonets, upon the different barracks, guards, and quarters of the enemy ; while Capt. Troop, with a party under his command, at the same time, took possession of the wharves and vessels lying there. The alarm soon became general, and an incessant fire of grape and round shot was kept up from an armed schooner of twelve guns, which lay within 150 yards of the wharves, for near an hour ; notwithstanding which, the party burnt all the vessels at the wharf, killed and captured all the men who belonged to them, destroyed about one hundred tons of hay, large quantities of grain, ten hogsheads of rum, and other West India goods, and secured all the soldiers who were stationed there ; the prisoners are about ninety, among whom are Mr. Chew and Mr. Bell. I have the satisfaction of being informed that the officers and men, without exception, behaved with the greatest order and bravery, and not a man on our side either killed or wounded.

“ Eleven vessels, great and small, were destroyed in the above affair, and the prisoners taken were about one-third seamen, the others generally American recruits, and sent to Hartford.”

Last Tuesday, one brig, two schooners, and four sloops went up the sound past New London.

Thursday se'nnight, Capt. Conklin, in a privateer sloop from New London, arrived at Bedford, from a cruise with a prize schooner, laden with 7,000 gallons of rum. Capt. Conklin had before taken another schooner loaded with fish, which he sold in Guadaloupe.

June 6, 1777. Tuesday last, two ships and a sloop went up the sound, passed New London.

A sloop, Daniel Rice, master, owned in New London, was taken last week off Fairfield, by Capt. Hawley's privateer, and carried into Fairfield, on the presumption she was bound to New York, as the sloop had taken in a cargo at Derby, and in the sound was standing for New York, with several tory passengers on board. Rice and his passengers were committed to Fairfield gaol. Three other small vessels were taken about the same time and sent in at Black Rock, with thirteen absconding tories on board.



It is judged to be about sixty, killed and wounded. Among the former, there are—one Lieut. Colonel, one Captain, four subalterns, and Dr. David Atwater, of New Haven, whose death is greatly lamented by his acquaintance. Among the number wounded, are Col. John Lamb, (of artillery,) Anan Bradley, and Timothy Gorham, (volunteers from New Haven,) though not mortally.

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June 20, 1777. Last Tuesday, a party of men from three British ships landed at Sachem's Head, in Guilford, three or four miles from the town, and burned a large dwelling house owned by Mr. Leete, and two barns; carried off several cattle, calves, and sheep; the inhabitants being alarmed, the enemy made a short tarry. The next morning the three ships were seen to pass New London harbor.

July 4, 1777. Last Wednesday, Capt. E. Rogers, in a small sloop, returned from Huntington, on Long Island, who went with a flag from New London, and delivered a British prisoner on board the ship Swan, on his return his vessel was boarded by a small sloop, a tender of the British sloop Halifax; the commander put Capt. Rogers and his men into the vessel's hold, and proceeded to Huntington, Long Island, when in sight of the Swan, they released him, after plundering him of \$6, a pair of silver buckles, and two pair of breeches.

New Haven, July 9th, 1777. Last Sunday night, a number of the British landed four miles west of Norwalk, and took off over forty head of cattle; and the next night attempted to land east of said town, but were prevented by the militia.

July 18, 1777. Capt Bigelow, of Connecticut, was taken in the West Indies.

Capt. Palmer, in a small privateer sloop from Stonington, was taken and carried into Newport.

Last Saturday, a prize brig was sent into New London by the sloop Trumbull, Capt. Henry Billings, with 5 or 6,000 pounds of coffee, &c. Also by the Trumbull, a prize brig with 98 hogsheads of rum, sent into Marblehead.

Capt. S. Champlin, in the sloop American Revenue, of New London, in company with a small privateer, took a large ship with 439 hogsheads of sugar, and arrived safe in port.

Last Tuesday, Gen. Prescott, taken prisoner in Rhode Island, was taken to Lebanon under guard.

Capt. Stillman, of Connecticut, was taken and carried into New York.

Tuesday last, a flag of truce sailed from New London for New York.

July 25th, 1777. Last Sabbath about 6 o'clock in the afternoon, twenty-three sail of British ships appeared off New London harbor, bound eastward under a fair breeze, which alarmed the inhabitants at New London. Alarm guns were fired, and the troops got under arms, but the ships passed New London about sun set.

Capt. Niles in the armed schooner Spy, who had been watching the above fleet from the time they came through Hurlgate, arrived at the mouth of the



“The enemy’s loss is judged to be double our number, and about twenty prisoners. The enemy, on this occasion, behaved with their usual barbarity—wantonly and cruelly murdering the wounded prisoners, who fell into their hands, and plundering the inhabitants, burning and destroying every thing in their way.—The enemy, before they left Fairfield, were joined by ten sail,

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harbor as the fleet passed by; they fired several shots at the *Spy*, when near Goshen Reef, without injury. The ships were a fleet of victuallers, bound to England, under the *Niger* frigate, with many invalids on board.

On Friday last, a flag returned to New London from Newport with several prisoners, sick by ill usage.

August 1st, 1777. On Saturday, seven sail of British ships under convoy from Newport, passed New London.

On Sunday, Capt. Niles, in the *Spy*, brought into New London an empty sloop of 80 tons; in company with the above fleet, after wood on Long Island, and took another loaded with wood, taken by Capt’s. Niles and Conklin.

Capt. Jason Chester, in a small armed boat from Middletown, in one week, took five sail of small coasting vessels, chiefly empty, and sent them into Connecticut river.

Capt. Champlin, of New London, took and sent into Boston, a brig laden with rum, also a large schooner, part of a fleet of one hundred and sixty sail which had left St. Kitts.

The prisoners who had arrived at New London from Newport, their whole clothing was not of the value of one farthing, and they were covered with lice, and nearly rotten with scurvy and putrid fever. They left a number of Americans on board the prison ship, confined promiscuously in the hold, officers, privates, negroes, &c., and by turns were allowed to breathe God’s free air upon deck, (occasionally in the day time,) but the hot rays of the sun beat upon the decks all day, which rendered the hold as hot as an oven; and at evening were drove into the hold with gratings laid over them, and in this hot bath to remain until morning, twelve only were left there by the aforesaid prisoners from Connecticut; (Palmer and his crew were taken in armed vessels and could be exchanged only for such as had been so taken.)

Prisoners allowance at Newport, viz.: for six men, twenty-four hours—Monday, 1 qt. of oat meal, 23 lbs. of bread. Tuesday, 2 lbs. of beef, and 3 lbs. of flour. Wednesday, 2 lbs. of pork, and 1 qt. of pease. Thursday, 1 qt. of oat meal, and 3 lbs. of bread. Friday, 2 lbs. of beef, and 3 lbs. of flour. Saturday, 2 lbs. of pork, and 1 qt. of pease, (14 ounces to the pound.)

New London, August 8, 1777. Last Saturday, a flag returned to New London with a number of poor, emaciated prisoners from Newport, Rhode Island; their appearance was enough to excite the commiseration of the most barbarous savages; but the hearts of the British appear callous to every sentiment of humanity. The brutal policy of the enemy, is to debilitate the bodies and ruin

chiefly small vessels. Since the enemy went off, a number of disaffected persons, who, it is supposed, intended to join them, have been taken into custody."

Gen. Wooster, who died of the wound which he received on the 27th of April, (in the affair of Danbury,) was one of the oldest and most experienced officers in the American service. He

the constitutions of their prisoners, leaving only life enough to answer an exchange; though many have died in the operation, performed by starvation. Capt. Moses Arnold, of Cape Ann, died in two hours after taken on board the flag, and was buried at Stonington. Samuel Kilby, Nathan Solly, and Francis Irons, lay sick in New London, the others, feeble as they were, crawled from town to town towards their homes. Their meagre countenances confirm the scanty pittance which had reduced them. Just before the arrival of the flag along side of the prison ship, Samuel Thompson, and the gunner of Captain Palmer's privateer, Edgerton, of Norwich, died by starvation. It was well asked, how long shall the States pay British seamen their wages, while prisoners, give them their private ventures, and lay them under no restraints; when should we retaliate, though "do good for evil" is a god-like virtue; if justice requires it, should it not be done? Dreadful thought! indeed dreadful! to an American to open something worse than an Inquisition, to torture the bodies of innocent men.

A flag sailed from New London for Newport, with thirty British prisoners, on Monday last, and returned on Wednesday, with thirty American prisoners. Samuel Fish died soon after he arrived in New London; twenty-seven of them crawled towards their homes. As the flag left the prison ship, Edward Williams, lieutenant of Capt. Palmer's privateer, and the cooper, died.

Capt. Champlin, sent into a safe port, a prize schooner with 220 hogsheads of rum.

New London, August 22, 1777. On Saturday evening, Capt. Tinker, in a small privateer, from East Haddam; a small sloop, John Harris, Master, and a large boat of Peter Rogers', of New London, were all drove on shore at Narragansett Beach by a British ship. Near the same time, a sloop, John Keeny, master and owner, of New London, was taken by a boat of a British man-of-war, but the men escaped in their small boat to Block Island.

Three British ships appeared in the sound several days.

Saturday last, a prize brig, taken by the ship Oliver Cromwell, was sent into a safe port, laden with beef, pork, butter, flour, &c., of 160 tons.

The following is a letter sent by express to Gov. Trumbull, dated, "In Council of Safety, Bennington, August 16th, 1777. Brig. Gen. Stark, of New Hampshire, with his brigade, together with the militia, two companies of rangers, raised by this State, with part of Col. Simon's regiment of militia, are now in action with a number of the enemy's troops, assembled near this place, which for some time has been very severe. We have in possession, taken from

commanded the Connecticut militia that were first marched to New York, in 1775, and had a subsequent command in Canada, in 1776. His loss was greatly lamented by his country. The following biographical notice has been published at a former period :

“ Gen. DAVID WOOSTER was a native of Stratford, and was

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the enemy this day, four brass field pieces, ordnance, stores, &c., and this minute five hundred prisoners have arrived. We have taken the ground, although fortified with intrenchments, &c., they were reinforced, made a second stand, and still continue the action. The loss on each side, is doubtless considerable—number not known.

P. S. The second action took place about a mile from the first ; many of the enemy were killed ; took two hundred more prisoners, being in all seven hundred ; and in all five field pieces.”

New Haven, August 27, 1777. Monday morning the British Swan, and three tenders, came too, off Milford Farms, where they landed about forty men, supposed with the intention to take cattle, but on their approach were drove off by the owners ; they remained about 20 minutes on shore, in which time they broke the windows and doors, &c., of Mr. Merwin's house, destroyed his beds, and furniture, &c., but upon the people's assembling they departed with great precipitation, and took with them two hogs, and a few cheeses. A few shots were exchanged after they were in their boats, without injury.

Sept. 12th, 1777. Capt. Niles, in the schooner Spy, sent into New London, a fine sloop of 80 tons, laden with wood, which he took at anchor under the Long Island shore.

Last Friday, was taken into Connecticut river, by two armed whale boats, from Middletown, two sloops, one of 50 tons, taken in Cow Bay, near New York, the other taken in the sound.

On Saturday, two men who were detected in conveying tories to Long Island from Killingworth, were committed to gaol in New London.

Last Sabbath, eight sail of shipping under convoy, went down the sound.

Near thirty sail of English shipping were seen last week, under Long Island shore, taking in wood.

Tuesday last, a sloop of about 70 tons, was taken in the sound, by Captain Briggs, of Boston, and sent into New London.

New London, Sept. 19th, 1777. Tuesday se'nnight the ship Oliver Cromwell, of Connecticut, took a prize ship into Boston ; she mounted sixteen carriage guns, with fifty men, and several passengers—one of them, a captain of a fifty gun ship, and had on board quite a quantity of dollars and wrought plate.

Capt. Conklin, in the privateer Revenge, of New London, took an English brig with 30 hogsheads of rum, &c., on board, which arrived safe in port. The prize a few days before spoke the Snow, with 427 hogsheads of rum on board, a prize to Capt. Staples, in a privateer, from New Haven.

born in 1711. He was educated at Yale College, and took his first degree in 1738. He commanded the sloop of war which conveyed the Connecticut troops in the expedition against Louisburg, in 1745. This sloop, together with one from Rhode Island, which accompanied it on the expedition, engaged the "Renounce," a French frigate of 36 guns, which, although superior in force to

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Sept. 26, 1777. Last Monday, a fleet of twenty-one sail came out of Gardner's Bay, among which were seven or eight ships, and went down the sound, bound to Newport. The same day a ship of 200 tons, prize to Capt. Conklin, arrived at Stonington, laden with 75,000 feet of mahogany, and 30 tons of logwood.

About an hour after the last prize came to anchor, Capt. Conklin was chased by a man-of-war and schooner of twelve guns, belonging to the last above fleet, and the English vessels in attempting to head Capt. Conklin and cut him off from land, ran on Watch Hill reef, about one mile from Capt. Conklin, who came to anchor within Watch Point. A brisk fire was kept up between them for several hours; and the man-of-war came to anchor just without the schooner to protect her against Capt. Conklin. The schooner remained on the reef until next morning, when the British set her on fire in the hold, and then went on board the man-of-war's boat and left her, and she was soon blown up by her magazine. The guns, some small arms, and anchors were saved, and a man found dead by the side of her. Capt. Conklin escaped unhurt.

New London, Oct. 3, 1777. Last Sunday, Capt. McGee, in a privateer sloop, sent into an eastern port, two prize brigs.

New London, Oct. 10, 1777. Arrived in a safe port a valuable prize ship, laden with sugar and cotton, worth £60,000, taken by the Alfred, Capt. Hinman, and the Raleigh, Capt. Thompson, two ships of war.

Last Friday, went up the sound a fleet of twenty sail from Newport.

A large party of the enemy from New York, landed at Tarrytown, in the State of New York, and on the last Saturday marched ten miles eastward, when Gen's. Putnam and Parsons, (who were previously joined by the militia almost to a man, and several volunteer companies from the west part of Connecticut,) attacked the enemy so warmly that they retreated to their shipping on the North river, and the next day they went up to Peekskill, where they were again attacked.

New London, Oct. 17, 1777. On the last Sabbath, the sloop Two Brothers, a privateer, T. Chester, captain, returned to New London, who in lat. 34, suffered damage from a British transport ship, of superior force, and full of men. Capt. Chester had one killed and three wounded.

And on Wednesday, thirty seamen taken in the Weymouth packet, by Capt. Harding, in the ship Oliver Cromwell, arrived in New London, who with fifteen other prisoners were sent in a flag to New York to be exchanged for an equal number of our men.

New London, Oct. 24, 1777. Last Tuesday, a chain shot from the British, at the north end of Rhode Island, at our encampment, killed one man and wounded another from Connecticut.

both her assailants, was compelled to sheer off, to avoid being captured. In the French war, he was appointed to the command of one of the regiments raised by this State for that service; sustained the command during most of the war, and acquired the reputation of a faithful, brave, and good officer. From his military experience and character, and the reputation which he had

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The flag sent to New York from New London with prisoners, the night she left New London was found on shore at Crane Neck on Long Island; thirty-seven of forty-five prisoners rose upon the captain, took the vessel, robbed her of her provisions and escaped to the Island to avoid the ships of war. The remainder of the forty-five were taken on board the Scorpion, Capt. Brown, who prevented the flag from proceeding to New York. Complaints were made that a prison ship was not provided to confine the British prisoners, until the enemy should send a cartel to redeem them.

A flag sailed from New London for Newport with seven prisoners, last Wednesday, taken from the Weymouth packet; two had escaped the previous night, supposed to have taken a boat for Long Island.

New London, Oct. 31, 1777. Last Saturday, fifteen prisoners who were taken in an armed schooner in the North river by a party of men in boats, were brought to Hartford, and committed to gaol; and the next day one hundred and twenty British troops, and five Hessian officers, among whom was Col. Spade, arrived at Hartford, from Albany, taken at the northward, previous to the capitulation of Gen. Burgoyne.

Deacon W. Hewitt, of Stonington, had in the troops fighting for the liberty of the States, two sons, who were captains, three lieutenants, one ensign, and one a fifer, when the father was in the 67th year of his age.

New London, Nov. 7, 1777. Last Tuesday, a frigate and three other vessels went down the sound with troops from New York to Newport.

By a letter dated Horse Neck, Nov. 2d, 1777, it appears that a class of villains who were harbored at Westchester, N. Y., who had been accustomed the season previous of plundering the unarmed inhabitants in the country, and had nearly ruined many respectable and wealthy families. Col. Smith with others formed a design to break up the the banditti, therefore they detached 150 men under Lieut. Col. Smith, of Col. Enos' regiment, with Captains Leavenworth and Ely, of Meigs' regiment, and Pettibone, of Enos', (on the 29th of October, 1777,) on the 30th of October, they arrived at Wright's Mills, 18 miles from Westchester, and in the night marched to the place destined, and arrived there a little before day light; divided into three parties, and surrounded most of the houses in the place; and made prisoners of six of the enemy's light horsemen, about thirty of the band of horse thieves and cow drivers, and six of the militia; took about forty cattle and horses, and about forty-five arms, and other articles of value; burnt three vessels laden with provisions, for New York; and then returned to Horse Neck, on the 1st of November, at 10 o'clock; all which was

acquired, he was appointed in 1775, at the commencement of the revolutionary war, commander of the Connecticut troops, and was subsequently made a Brigadier General in the continental army. This commission he soon resigned, and was afterwards appointed the first Major General of the militia of Connecticut.

“In 1777, a party of the British, having landed at Compo,

performed in about 10 hours, including a march of 60 miles, within about 2 miles of the enemy's works, without any loss. Soon after a small party of Americans under the direction of Maj. Brown, a volunteer, took two prisoners within a small distance of the enemy's lines, one of the British light horse, and one of Fanning's regiment.

New London, Nov. 14th, 1777. Last Thursday, twenty sail of shipping left Newport for Gardner's Island, (after wood) under convoy of the Syren frigate of 28 guns, which ship with two others of the fleet, (a ship and schooner) in a gale of wind ran on shore at the East side of Point Judith, which were taken by the troops on shore, who had several pieces of artillery, with near 200 prisoners; one or two were killed on board the vessels, and several wounded. The guns, stores, &c., of the frigate were secured, and Sabbath morning they burnt the frigate. The remainder of the fleet proceeded to Gardner's Bay.—[Connecticut Gazette.]

Hartford, Nov. 18th, 1777. On Friday last, passed through this town, escorted by a party of light dragoons, the Hon. John Hancock, President of the American Congress, with his lady, on his way to Boston, after an absence, on *public business, of more than two and a half years.*

New London, Dec. 19. Amongst other obstacles to impede our success, last Friday, the powder mill in Windham blew up.

A plan was formed to bring off or destroy a magazine of military stores, which the British had at Shetocket, on Long Island, and to destroy some shipping of the enemy, loaded with timber at Southhold, Long Island.

And on Tuesday before the 19th day of December, part of two battalions of troops embarked from Connecticut under convoy of the sloop Schuyler, the Spy and Mifflin schooners; the next morning, before light the Faulkland, a British frigate, on her way from New York to Newport, found the Schuyler and two smaller vessels, when the latter ran on shore upon the Island, but the former run upon a spit of sand, called the Old Man's, and was taken with about sixty troops on board, among whom were the following officers, viz. : Colonels Ely and Webb, Capt. Buckland, Licut. Riley, Ensign Mumford, Adjutant Hopkins, Quarter Master Starr, of Webb's battalion, Ensigns Niles and Abbott, Adjutant West.

On Thursday, a party under Capt. Hart, marched to Southhold and were near making prisoners of Capt. Ayscough and over twenty men of the ship Swan, at a house in said Southhold; but they hastened to their boats, being closely pursued, and as they were getting on board their boats they were fired upon and most of them killed or wounded; it was supposed Capt. Ayscough was killed, and seven marines and seamen were taken prisoners. The party staid several

and marched from thence to Danbury, for the purpose of destroying the military stores at that place, belonging to the public, Gen. Wooster hastened to oppose them with such force as he could collect on the exigency of the occasion, which consisted of about three hundred men. With this inconsiderable force, he fell upon the British as they were retreating,—having accomplished the

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days on the Island; the ships had left Southhold, and the magazine at Shetocket had been removed.

New London, Dec. 26, 1777. On Thanksgiving day, (last Thursday) a collection in the North Parish of New London, was taken for the benefit of our soldiers in the continental army, viz.: in cash, £26 12, 17 shirts, 14 pair of stockings, 4 coats, 7 jackets, 3 pair of breeches, 2 pair of drawers, 20 pair of mittens, 1 pair of trowsers, 7 pair of shoes, 1 pair of gloves, 2 felt hats, and 2 linen handkerchiefs.

Last Monday, a part of Col. Webb's battalion arrived in New London from Long Island, and marched for Peekskill. Col. Webb who was taken at Long Island, was sent to Newport, and in a few days, left on parole, and went to Wethersfield.

A valuable prize ship from Scotland, taken by the continental brig *Resistance*, Capt. Chew, of New London, arrived in Boston. The sterling cost of her cargo being chiefly linens, was about £7,000.—[Green's Gazette.]

As many of the soldiers who marched to New York and New Jersey, the three first years of the American revolution were from Connecticut, and were taken prisoners by the British, and confined in prison ships, barns and other places, without food or fire, I insert to prove the inhuman treatment of the British to American prisoners, two depositions (being two of many on hand) of unfortunate prisoners.

Samuel Young being solemnly sworn, deposeth, that he was taken prisoner at fort Washington, by the English army, on Saturday, the 16th of November; that he was carried a few miles with the other prisoners that night, and kept in some out houses until Monday, when they came to New York, and there were confined; (that he and others, about 500) were in a stable, and that all this while had no victuals of any kind, till Monday night, which the enemy threw into the stable in a confused manner, as if to so many hogs, a quantity of biscuit in crumbs, mostly mouldy, and some of them crawling with maggots, which they were obliged to scramble for without any division; that the next day they had a little pork given to each, which they were obliged to eat raw; that afterwards, they got sometimes a bit of pork, and at other times, biscuit, pease and rice, being confined two weeks in a church in New York; that afterwards, they were carried on board a ship, where about 500 of them were confined below deck; that during their confinement they suffered greatly with cold, not being allowed fire; were treated with great indignity, insulted by soldiers, by the inhabitants of New York, by women, and even negroes; that great numbers died in this confinement, three and four, and sometimes more, died in a day, and one day



object of their incursion, and burned a considerable part of the town. A smart skirmish ensued, in which Gen. Wooster, while gallantly fighting in the van of his little party, was mortally wounded. This event happened on the 27th of April, 1777, and he died on the 2d day of May following, at Danbury. A monument was voted to be erected to his memory, by Congress.

“Gen. Wooster was a brave and good officer, an ardent patriot, possessed a respectable understanding, and in his various public and private relations, sustained a character distinguished for integrity, benevolence, and virtue.”

The following facts are related of the incursion of Danbury—with greater particularity and by living witnesses :

The citizens of Danbury were as patriotic during the revolution, as those of any other town in the State—of course, the number of tories among them was small. Before the commence-

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ment, and that they are in frail health, occasioned by this barbarous treatment ; and many of those who were released died on the road home.

Sworn before us, Dec. 15, 1776.

SAM'L. YOUNG,  
WM. HOUSTON.

Wm. Darlington, a private in Capt. Wallace's company of the flying camp, of Pennsylvania, on his solemn oath testified—That they, the prisoners, were very roughly used at Harlem, on their way from fort Washington to New York ; that at New York 800 of them were stowed into a house, called New Bridewell ; that it was a cold, open house, the windows not glazed ; that on the Monday they received their provisions ; that they had not one mouthful from early on the unfortunate Saturday morning, until then ; that then, and so on afterwards, their rations for three days, each individual, were one half pound of biscuit, half a pound of pork, a half pint of pease, half a gill of rice, and half an ounce of butter ; the whole not more than enough for one good meal ; that they were defrauded of this petty allowance, two days rations, each week ; that they had no straw or hay to lie on ; and no fuel, but one cart load, per week, for the 800 men ; that at 9 of the clock at evening, the Hessian guards would come in and put out the fires, and lay on the poor prisoners with heavy clubs for sitting round the fire ; that the water was very bad, as well as their bread, beyond all comparison bad, except once, good biscuit, and once good baker's bread ; that they began to die, like rotten sheep, with cold, hunger and dirt ; that those prisoners who had any good wearing apparel, such as buckskin breeches, or good coats, were necessitated to sell them, to purchase bread to keep them alive ; that the enemy seemed to take a kind of infernal pleasure in their sufferings.

Signed by

WM. DARLINGTON.



ment of hostilities, in March, 1775, a company\* of one hundred men, including officers, was enlisted in Danbury, for the service of the colonies, and joined a regiment of Connecticut state troops, commanded by Col. David Waterbury, some time in the month of May or early in June following. The regiment composed part of the army of Gen. Montgomery, in the northern campaign of that year. The company thus raised, was, in the first instance, marched to Stamford, where Col. Waterbury resided, and which was the place of rendezvous for the regiment. From thence their progress northward was slow, as they did not arrive at Half Moon Point, on the Hudson river, (Waterford,) until the latter part of the summer. They were employed in the siege of St. John's, a fort upon the river St. John's, about thirty miles from Montreal; thence they proceeded, under Gen. Montgomery, to Montreal, which was immediately surrendered to the American forces. Here their term of service expired, and they were discharged about the 1st of December.

Many of these old soldiers have spoken of their services and sufferings, in this campaign, with tears in their eyes. On marching to join their regiment, they supposed they were parting from their families and friends forever, and their neighbors regarded them as an offering upon the altar of their country. On the Sunday, previous to their departure, they marched in a body, dressed in their simple uniform, to the meeting-house, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Ebenezer Baldwin, the minister of the Congregational church, and who was a brother of the Hon. Simeon Baldwin, of New Haven. The sermon is still spoken of as highly eloquent and patriotic. Notwithstanding they were employed in ten sieges, and were, through the campaign, exposed to great fatigues and hardships, every man of the company returned to his home before the 1st of January following. Four of them, including Daniel Hicock, the Ensign, lived to receive pensions under the act of Congress of June 7th, 1832. One only, David Weed, is still living. His age is believed to be about 92.

Nor did their services cease with that campaign. So far as the history of each individual can now be traced, they entered the service in the campaign of 1776, without a single exception ;

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\* A complete roll of this company is now in the Comptroller's Office.

some in the regiments of State troops, and others in the continental army.

The Captain, (Noble Benedict,) commanded a company in a continental regiment, and was taken prisoner at fort Washington, in the State of New York, in November, 1776. At the same time, one-half of the company under his command, being with him, were taken prisoners—the other half of the company then being in fort Lee, on the other bank of the Hudson. The prisoners, excepting officers, were confined in the sugar-house, in New York. The cruelties inflicted upon them, and the sufferings they endured, are the theme of conversation among their relatives to this day. All, excepting two only, died in prison—most of them from starvation. The detail of their sufferings, was communicated to their friends by the survivors, Sergt. Benedict and Stephen Bump; Col. Joseph Barnum, the father of one of these sufferers, learned from them, that for many days, his son, having been deprived of food and drink, literally died of hunger, in the act of attempting to bite a brick, and with a piece of brick in his mouth. The feelings of this father were excited in the highest degree; and many instances of the exhibition of it, are still often related by old persons. The very next day afterwards, he took his gun and went in pursuit of tories, to revenge on them the death of his son. After proceeding about two miles northward, he saw a tory at work upon his own land, he took deliberate aim, and shot him, wounding him severely, but not mortally.

He had previously been a professedly pious man,—but frequently after the loss of his son, concluded his devotions in his family, by invoking a curse upon “old king George and his hellish crew.”

In the fall of the year 1776, the town was selected by the continental officers, as a place of deposite for military stores; and accordingly, during the ensuing winter, large quantities of flour, pork, and other provisions, were collected and stored there; and the destruction of this property was the object of Gen. Tryon, whose name, in consequence of his exploits, in effecting that object, has obtained an infamous notoriety in Connecticut.

It is well known that Tryon landed at Compo, in the town of Fairfield, in the latter part of April, 1777, with a force of two thousand men, and marched directly to Danbury, a distance of

about twenty-two miles. They were conducted and guided from their place of landing to Danbury, by two young men, inhabitants of Danbury, Stephen Jarvis and Eli Benedict, and made their appearance in the village of the afternoon of Saturday, the 26th of April, 1777. Mr. Silas Hamilton, a farmer residing in the north part of the town of Danbury, having heard after dinner on that day, that the British troops were approaching, resolved to save a piece of woolen cloth, belonging to him, which had been for some time in the hands of a clothier in the south part of the village; he rode into town, took his cloth from the clothier, and had tied one end of the piece behind the saddle, as the advanced guard of the enemy made their appearance at the south end of main street. He mounted his horse, and put spurs to him. Three troopers, well-mounted, immediately started in pursuit. In running their horses about one hundred rods, they overtook him, and shouted, "stop, old daddy;" "not yet," said the old gentleman, and again whipped up his horse. The nearest trooper then aimed a blow at him, with his sword, but, at that moment, the cloth partially unrolling, one end of it fluttered in the breeze, and frightened the trooper's horse. Thus giving the old gentleman several rods the start. They pursued him again, for the distance of more than a mile; but whenever they came within striking distance, the flying end of the cloth was in their way, and the old gentleman, having resolutely determined not to surrender himself, or to lose his cloth, finally escaped. As the head of the British column arrived at the court-house, four men stationed in the dwelling-house of Maj. Daniel Starr, a few rods distant, fired upon them from the windows and fled, but they were pursued and shot down; their bodies were thrown into the house, and the house immediately burnt. This was the only injury done to private property that day and the night following.—The whole population of the village, excepting a few tory families, made their escape to the adjoining towns, taking with them their moveable property. The Probate records were removed to New Fairfield, and thus preserved; but the Town records, by reason of the absence or negligence of the Town Clerk, remained in his dwelling-house, which was burnt on the following day.

The Legislature afterwards provided all the remedies for repairing the loss of the Town records, the case admitted of.

[Refer to the records of the General Assembly, for resolutions, concerning highway and titles to lands in Danbury.]

Tryon established his head-quarters at the house of a bitter tory at the south end of the village, and near the public stores. All the other dwelling-houses in the village, were filled with British troops, during the following night. The alarm was of course spread through the adjacent towns, and volunteers came flocking to the camp of the patriots, a short distance north of the village, through the night and the following day. The British sent out no detachments, and paid little or no attention to the small American force in the vicinity, but spent the night in revelry and drunkenness.

Early on Sunday morning, the 27th, every dwelling-house in the town, was set on fire, excepting the houses of tories and one or two others; and the enemy marched out of the town, while they were yet in flames. The rear guard, on leaving the town, whether in pursuance of orders, is not known, set the Congregational meeting-house on fire, but it was soon extinguished. Gen. Wooster, being in the vicinity, took command of the few American troops which could be collected, and followed close upon the rear of the British army, harassing them considerably upon their march, south-westerly, towards Ridgefield, and in which pursuit he lost his life. He received the fatal wound about two miles north of the village of Ridgefield, while in the act of urging on his men to the attack of a small force of British troops, who had been separated from the main body. The command then devolved upon Arnold, who conducted the pursuit with his usual impetuosity. On arriving at the village of Ridgefield, the rear of the enemy turned upon their pursuers, and there was a smart skirmish for about half an hour. In the conflict Arnold's horse was killed under him. While Arnold was struggling to release his feet from the stirrups, a tory from New Fairfield, named Coon, advanced towards him, for the purpose of making him a prisoner, and said to him, "surrender—you are my prisoner,"—"not yet," said Arnold, who at that moment having extricated himself from his fallen horse, drew a pistol from his holster, and shot his tory adversary dead upon the spot.

The number killed in this skirmish exceeded forty:—those of their countrymen, who had aided, or given countenance to the

enemy, and, who had, with worse than savage barbarity, destroyed and laid waste the dwellings of a peaceful community, and surrendered their friends and relations, could hardly expect to escape the popular indignation. But the men of that day rarely indulged their passions at the expense of the interests of their country. Accordingly, the only punishment inflicted upon their traitorous countrymen, by way of revenge, if revenge it would be called, was harmless. Soon after the retreat of the British troops, some fifteen or twenty young whigs, walked into the house, (then) lately occupied by Tryon as his head-quarters, in the evening, took the host, and carried him a short distance, to a stream of water, and gave him, what they called a thorough "*ducking*." They used him the greater part of the night, and in that time immersed him as frequently as they deemed profitable. He was ever afterwards a worthy citizen. •

Benedict, one of the guides of the British, after the war, returned to the town, with the intention of residing there. But, as soon as his return was known, large numbers of the inhabitants collected in the neighborhood of his house, with the avowed intention of escorting him out of the town upon a rail. He had timely notice of their intention, and made his escape, and never afterwards returned to Danbury.

The other guide, Jarvis, at the close of the war, went to reside in Nova-Scotia. Many years afterwards he returned privately to Danbury, on a visit to his relations. His being there, however, was soon known, and the inhabitants of the northern part of the town, turned out in the night to prepare to furnish him a coat of tar and feathers. They surrounded his father's house; but one of his sisters happening to discover them, awakened and concealed him in an ash-oven. The house was searched, but as the ashes, under which he lay concealed, were not examined, he escaped the punishment he so richly deserved. He fled to the British dominions, and resided either in Nova Scotia or Canada, until his death, which took place within two or three years past.

The next most important operation of the campaign of 1777, was the successful affair of Long Island, an account of which is given in a note, being a letter from Gen. Parsons, to Governor Trumbull, page 126, of this work.

There were four sessions of the General Assembly in 1777. The two regular sessions, in May and October ; one adjourned session in January, and one in August.

There were eleven more regiments raised this season ; nine for the continental service, and two for the special defence of the State. The nine regiments raised for the continental ser-

#### A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF MAJOR GENERAL PARSONS.

Major General Samuel Holden Parsons, was born at Lyme, in New London county, and State of Connecticut, May 14th, 1737 ; and was the third son of the Rev. Jonathan Parsons, a distinguished clergyman, who removed from Lyme to Newburyport, Mass., 1746.

General Parsons was educated and graduated at Harvard University, in 1756.

He read law at Lyme, with the Hon. Matthew Griswold, (afterwards Governor of the State,) was admitted to the bar of New London county, February, 1759, and settled at Lyme in the practice of the law.

At the age of twenty-five, he was elected a member of the General Assembly of the colony of Connecticut, and was successively re-elected until his removal to New London, in 1774.

In November, 1773, he was appointed "King's Attorney" for New London county, which office he resigned at the commencement of the revolutionary war, and as one of the "Committee of Correspondence" entered with zeal into the cause of the colonies against Great Britain.

Soon after the battle of Lexington, some gentlemen of Connecticut, at the head of whom were Mr. Parsons, the Hon. Silas Deane, Gen. David Wooster, and others, formed the bold design of seizing the fortresses of Ticonderoga and Crown Point by surprise, and obtaining command of lakes George and Champlain. In order to execute the plan with secrecy and despatch, they borrowed *on their individual credit*, the requisite funds from the colonial Treasurer, raised a body of volunteers, and placed them under the command of Colonel Ethan Allen, who successfully conducted the enterprise—captured the forts and made prisoners of the garrison without the loss of a single man. The seizure of these posts was important in itself, and tended to inspire the Americans with new and additional confidence in themselves.

On the 26th of April, 1775, Mr. Parsons was appointed Colonel of the 6th regiment, "raised for the special defence and safety of the colony," and soon after marched to Roxbury, where he continued until the British evacuated Boston, when he was ordered to New York.

He was in the battle of Long Island, in August, 1776, and about that time was appointed by Congress, Brigadier General, and was with the army under General Washington, at the evacuation of New York.

During the years 1777—8 and 9 a portion of the army was required to protect the important posts upon the North river ; General Parsons was with Gen. Putnam at Peekskill, and from thence was frequently detached on various important expeditions.

About the middle of May, 1777, returning to Peekskill, from Connecticut, with a body of recruits, and learning, while passing through New Haven, that the enemy had collected a large quantity of forage and provisions at Sag Harbor,

vice, were severally commanded by Col. Samuel Wyllys, of Hartford, Col. Samuel B. Webb, of Wethersfield, Col. Philip B. Bradley, of Ridgefield, Col. Jedediah Huntington, of Norwich, Col. John Durkee, of Norwich, Col. John Douglass, of Plainfield, Col. Heman Swift, of Cornwall, Col. John Chandler, of Newtown, and Col. Return J. Meigs, of Middletown.

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for the supply of their army at New York ; General Parsons determined to seize the same, and for that purpose despatched Lieut. Col. Meigs, with about two hundred and thirty men, who completely effected the object of the expedition, and also burnt one of the enemy's armed vessels ; took ninety prisoners and recrossed the sound without the loss of a single man. The successful result of this enterprise proved the wisdom and good judgment with which it was designed, as well as the skill and valor displayed in its execution.

In June, he marched from Peekskill to Middlebrook, N. J., to join the main army, where General Washington was encamped, apprehending an attack from General Howe, who, it was supposed, had designs on Philadelphia ; but the enemy, being frustrated by the vigilance of Washington, and retiring from New Jersey, the continentals, under General Parsons, returned to the North river, where an attack was soon after made by Sir Henry Clinton. In the early part of October, advancing up the North river with a large force, the British general captured forts Montgomery and Clinton, and proceeded above the Highlands, compelling General Putnam, (who commanded at Peekskill,) to evacuate that post and forts Independence and Constitution, and retire to Fishkill. Here the American army was reinforced by the militia of Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, and General Parsons, by order of General Putnam, marched with two thousand men to Peekskill, and recovered and took possession of that post, with the passages in the Highlands.

In the month of July, 1779, General Washington understanding that Governor Tryon had invaded Connecticut with twenty-six hundred British troops, for the purpose of penetrating the adjacent country, immediately directed Gen. Parsons (then in command near the Highlands) to hasten to the scene of action, with a view of giving confidence to his countrymen and guiding their efforts. Having placed himself at the head of one hundred and fifty continental troops, assisted by considerable bodies of Connecticut militia, under General Erastus Wolcott, Gen. Parsons attacked the British in the morning of the 12th, immediately after their landing at Norwalk ; and although too weak to prevent the destruction of that town, he harassed and annoyed the enemy throughout the day in such a manner that they re-embarked and returned to Huntington bay for fresh supplies of artillery and re-enforcements of men. Governor Tryon being convinced that any further attempts to extend his depredations into the country, defended as it was, by a brave and patriotic population, would be ineffectual, abandoned the undertaking and returned to New York.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed by Governor Tryon to Generals Putnam and Parsons, a short time before invading Connecticut, with General Parsons' very caustic and pungent reply.

NEW YORK, June 18, 1779.

Sir—By one of his Majesty's ships of war, which arrived here last night from Georgia, we have intelligence that the British forces were in possession of fort



The Connecticut continental troops, raised this season, were early in the field. They were chiefly assigned to the defence of the important military posts about the Highlands on the Hudson river. This great thoroughfare of communication between the northern, southern and middle States, was maintained throughout the war, mostly by Connecticut forces.

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Johnston, near Charlestown, the first of June. Surely it is time for rational Americans to wish for a reunion with the parent State, and to adopt such measures as will most speedily effect it.

I am, sir, your very humble, obedient servant,

WM. TRYON, M. G.

To Gen. PUTNAM, or in his absence, to Gen. PARSONS.

[Answer.]

CAMP, HIGHLANDS, Sept. 7, 1779.

Sir,—I should have paid an earlier attention to your polite letter of the 18th of June, had I not entertained some hope of a personal interview with you, in your descents upon the defenceless towns of Connecticut, to execute your master's vengeance, upon the rebellious women and formidable host of boys and girls, who were induced, by your insidious proclamations, to remain in those hapless places; and who, if they had been suffered to continue in the enjoyment of that peace their age and sex entitled them to expect from *civilized nations*, you undoubtedly supposed would prove the scourge of Britain's veteran troops, and pluck from you those laurels, with which that *fiery* expedition so plentifully crowned you. But your sudden departure from *Norwalk*, and the particular attention you paid to your *personal* safety, when at that place, and the prudent resolution you took, to suffer the town of Stamford to escape the conflagration, to which you had devoted Fairfield and Norwalk, prevented my wishes on this head; this I hope will sufficiently apologize for my delay in answering your last letter.

By letters from France, we have intelligence that His Catholic Majesty declared war against Great Britain in June last; that the combined fleets of France and Spain, amounting to more than sixty sail of the line, have formed a junction, and with twenty-five thousand land forces are meditating an important blow on the British dominions in Europe; and that the grand fleet of Old England find it very *inconvenient* to venture far from their harbors. In the West Indies, Admiral Byron having greatly suffered in a naval engagement, escaped with his ships in a very *shattered condition* to St. Christopher's; and covered his fleet under the batteries on the shores, and has suffered himself to be insulted in the road of that Island by the French Admiral; and Count D'Estaing after reducing the Islands of St. Vincent and Grenada to the obedience of France, defeating and disabling the British fleet, had sailed for Hispaniola; where it is expected he will be joined by the Spanish fleet in those seas, and attack Jamaica. The storming your strong works at Stony Point, and capturing the garrison by our brave troops; the brilliant successes of General Sullivan against your *faithful* friends and allies, the *savages*; the surprise of Paulus Hook, by Major Lee; the flight of General Provost from Carolina; and your shamefully shutting yourselves up in New York, and the neighboring Islands, are so fully within your knowledge as scarcely to need repetitions.



At the May session, two regiments were ordered to be raised for the defence of the State. One of these regiments was commanded by Col. Roger Enos, of Windsor, and was stationed on the south-western border of the State, near Long Island sound. The other was commanded by Col. John Ely, of Saybrook.

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Surely it is time for *Britons* to rouse from *their* delusive dreams of conquest, and pursue such systems of future conduct as will save their *tottering* empire from *total* destruction.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL H. PARSONS.

Major General TRYON.

On the 29th of September, 1780, he was appointed by General Washington, one of the Board of General Officers, constituted and directed to sit at West Point upon the examination and trial of Major Andro, Adjutant General of the British army.

In October, 1780, he was appointed and commissioned by Congress as Major General, and succeeded General Putnam in the command of the Connecticut line of the continental army.

During the latter part of the year 1780, the defenceless inhabitants upon the frontiers, between Greenwich and New York, had been much annoyed, and subjected to losses of property and great sufferings by the frequent incursions of the enemy stationed at Morrisania, (near the East river) and at Harlem.

On the 25th of January, 1781, General Parsons, having under his command a body of continental troops, determined to destroy the enemy's barracks, (which could not be re-built during the winter) and in that way afford some protection to the inhabitants near the lines; with this view he proceeded by rapid marches to Westchester and Morrisania, and attacked the British troops, who were unable to resist the ardent spirit of the Americans, and after several actions he effectually succeeded in the enterprise. About fifty of the enemy's huts were burnt; a bridge across Harlem river under the protection of the enemy's redoubts, and a large quantity of forage were destroyed. The loss of General Parsons was inconsiderable, not exceeding eight men killed; while that of the enemy was over fifty killed and fifty-two prisoners captured, with about eighty cattle and forty horses.

The object of this enterprise being accomplished, the American troops retired, bringing off the cattle, horses, and prisoners.

On the 5th of February, Congress passed a resolution requesting the Commander-in-Chief to present to General Parsons, and the officers under his command, the thanks of Congress for his judicious arrangements, and for the courage displayed by the officers and men under him on this occasion.

In September, 1781, the Governor and Council of Safety of Connecticut, requested General Parsons to take under his command the State troops and coast guards raised for the protection of this State, together with such militia as should be ordered to the coast; and to dispose of this force in such manner as he should judge necessary to protect the inhabitants as far as practicable against the desultory expeditions of the enemy on the coast of this State.

Having continued in the war until its close, General Parsons resumed the practice of law in Middletown; was repeatedly a member of the Legislature

The title of 'Excellency,' instead of 'Honor,' was ordered to be given to the Governor.

Jabez Huntington, of Norwich, was appointed Major General over the whole militia of the State, in place of Gen. David Wooster, deceased. Gen. James Wadsworth, of Durham, was appointed second Major General, in place of Jabez Huntington, promoted. The Major Generals were authorized, on notice of the appearance of the enemy, by sea or land, to call out all or part

from that place; and an active and influential member of the Convention which assembled at Hartford, in January, 1788, and adopted the Constitution of the United States.

In the latter part of the year 1785, he was appointed by Congress, a commissioner, with General Richard Butler, of Pittsburgh, and General George Rogers Clarke, of Kentucky, to hold a treaty with the western Indians, near the falls of Ohio, for the extinguishment of the aboriginal title to certain lands in the north western territory of the United States.

The treaty was held near the mouth of the Great Miami, in January, 1786, and the Indians then ceded to the United States a large and valuable tract of country embracing the site on which Cincinnati is now built.

He was a member and for some time President of the Society of the Cincinnati in Connecticut.

In 1788, he was appointed and commissioned by Congress the first Judge of the north western territory, which then included the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan; which office he held until his death. His associates were General James M. Varnum, of Rhode Island, and the Hon. John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey.

In 1789, he was appointed by the State of Connecticut, a commissioner, with Governor Oliver Wolcott, of Litchfield, (father of the late Governor Wolcott,) and the Hon. James Davenport, of Stamford, to hold a treaty with the Wyandots and other tribes of Indians, for extinguishing their claims, to the aboriginal title to the "Connecticut Western Reserve;" and in the fall of 1789, he went into that country to meet some of the chiefs with a view to preliminary arrangements for holding a treaty with them. While returning to his residence at Marietta, he was drowned in descending the rapids of the Big Beaver river, the 17th of November, 1789—aged 52 years.

General Parsons was a distinguished member of the bar—possessed talents of a high order, and was an active and efficient opposer of the arbitrary claims and pretensions of Great Britain over her colonies in North America.

He engaged in the war of the revolution at its commencement, and served with reputation until its close.

He filled various public places of great trust and importance at different periods of his life, the duties of which he discharged with acknowledged ability and fidelity.

He was a man of ardent feelings—and like other gentlemen in public life, had some personal enemies—but his personal friends were numerous and warmly attached to him.

of the militia, without orders from the Governor and Council, for the defence of this or the neighboring States.

The militia, in 1777, enjoyed comparative repose ; not being subjected to those severe draughts which they had experienced in the preceding years. There were only three considerable requisitions of the standing militia during this year. The first was to Peekskill, under Brig. Gen. Ward, to reinforce the army on that station, under Gen. Putnam. The second was a draught of two regiments for the northern army. These regiments were commanded by Col. Cook, of —, and Col. Samuel McLellan, of Woodstock. Also, a regiment of light-horse, commanded by Maj. Elijah Hyde.

. In the ever-memorable victory of Saratoga, Connecticut had her full share of troops on the ground, and her officers and soldiers fully sustained that high character for skill and bravery, which had been awarded to them in the previous campaigns.

The last requisition of the militia this season, was for a brigade from the eastern section of the State, under the command of Brig. Gen. John Douglass, to aid Maj. Gen. Spencer in a projected expedition against the enemy on Rhode Island. This expedition was designed to take place in October, of that year, but failed from the badness of the weather, and other causes.

In addition to the many other evils incident to a protracted and calamitous civil and foreign war, a spirit of monopoly and engrossing of provisions, as well as other necessities and luxuries, now prevailed to a most alarming extent. In order to check this demoralizing spirit of cupidity, the Legislature of Connecticut, at the October session of 1777, enacted a severe law against monopoly, and the engrossing both of agricultural products and imported goods. The title of this act was as follows : “ An Act to encourage fair dealing, and to restrain and punish sharpers and oppressors.”

The most important event in which Connecticut was concerned, in 1778, was the great and terrible calamity that overwhelmed the settlement beyond the Delaware—the massacre at Wyoming. The following article, describing that catastrophe, was published about that time :

“ July 20, 1778.—Since our last, many of the distressed refugees from Wyoming, who escaped the general massacre of the

inhabitants, have passed this way,—from whom we have collected the following account :—

“ The settlement consisted of the towns of Lackawana, Exeter, Kingston, Wilkesbarre, Plymouth, Nanticoak, Huntington, and Salem, each containing five miles square, and were in a flourishing condition. The lower towns were pretty full of inhabitants; the land extremely good, and beautifully situated along both sides of the Susquehanna; producing immense quantities of grain, &c. The settlement had lately supplied the continental army with five thousand bushels of grain, and the ground was loaded with the most promising crops of every kind. The settlement included upwards of one thousand families, which had furnished our army one thousand soldiers, besides garrisoning four forts in the towns of Lackawana, Exeter, Kingston, and Wilkesbarre. One of these forts was garrisoned by upwards of four hundred soldiers, chiefly militia, the principal officers in which, were Cols. Denison, and Zebulon Butler. The tories and inhabitants, had given some disturbance to these settlements last year, before Gen. Harkenrer's battle, near fort Stanwix, and our skirmishes soon after, when the enemy were dispersed, and the tories concealed themselves among our different settlements. The people had remained undisturbed during the rest of the year. About this time, the inhabitants, having discovered that many of the villainous tories who had stirred up the Indians, and been with them in fighting against us, were within the settlements,—twenty-seven of them, were, in January last, taken and secured, but were afterwards, for want of sufficient evidence, set at liberty. They immediately joined the enemy, and became active in raising in the Indians a spirit of hostility against us. The people had frequent intimations that the Indians had some mischievous design against them, but their fears were somewhat abated by the seeming solicitude of the Indians to preserve peace. They sent down, at different times, several parties with declarations of their peaceable disposition towards us. They were always dismissed with assurances that there was no design to disturb them. But one of those Indians, getting drunk, said that he and the other messengers were only sent to amuse the people in the settlement; but that the Indians intended, as soon as they were in order, to attack them. On this, the Indian men were confined, and the women sent back with a flag. In March, appearan-

ces became more alarming, and the scattered families, settled thirty miles up the river, were collected in. In April and May, strolling parties of Indians and tories, about thirty, and less in a company, made frequent incursions into the settlement, robbing and plundering the inhabitants. In June, several persons being at work on a farm, from which the tory inhabitants had gone to the enemy, were attacked, and one man of them killed. Soon after, a woman, (wife of one of the twenty-seven tories before mentioned,) was killed, with her five children, by a party of tories and Indians, who plundered the house of every thing they could take away, and destroyed the rest.

“ On the 1st instant, (July) the whole body of the enemy, consisting, it is supposed of near 1600, about 300 of whom were thought to be Indians under their own chiefs; the rest, tories, painted like them, except their officers, who were dressed like regulars; the whole under the command of Col. John Butler, (a Connecticut tory, and cousin to Col. Z. Butler, the second in command in the settlement) came down near the upper fort, but concealed the greatest part of their number. Here they had a skirmish with the inhabitants, who took and killed two Indians, and lost ten of their own men, three of whom, they afterwards found killed, scalped, and mangled in the most inhuman manner.

“ Thursday, July 2. The enemy appeared on the mountains back of Kingston, where the women and children then fled into the fort. Most of the garrison at Exeter fort were tories, who treacherously gave it up to the enemy. The same night, after a little resistance, they took Lackawana fort, killed Squire Jenkins and his family, with several others, in a barbarous manner, and made prisoners of most of the women and children. A small number only escaped.

“ Friday, July 3. This morning, Col. Z. Butler, leaving a small number to guard the fort, (at Wilkesbarre) crossed the river with about 400 men, and marched into Kingston fort. The enemy sent in a flag, demanding a surrender of the fort in two hours. Col. Butler answered that he should not surrender, but was ready to receive them. They sent in a second flag, demanding an immediate surrender, otherwise, that the fort should be stormed, plundered, and burnt, with all its contents, in a few hours; and said they had with them 300 men. Col. Z. Butler proposed a parley. which being agreed to, a place in Kingston was appointed

for the meeting, to which Col. Z. Butler repaired, with 400 men, well armed: but finding nobody there, he proceeded to the foot of the mountain, where at a distance, he saw a flag, which, as he advanced, retired as if afraid, twenty or thirty rods. He followed, was led into an ambush, and partly surrounded by the enemy, who suddenly rose and fired upon him. Notwithstanding the great disproportion of sixteen hundred to four hundred, he and his men bravely stood and returned the fire for three-quarters of an hour, with such briskness and resolution that the enemy began to give way, and were on the point of retiring, when one of Col. Z. Butler's men, either through treachery or cowardice, cried out that the Colonel ordered a retreat. This caused a cessation of their fire, threw them into confusion, and a total rout ensued. The greatest part fled to the river, which they endeavored to pass to fort Wilkesbarre, the enemy pursuing them with the fury of devils. Many were lost or killed in the river, and no more than about seventy,\* some of whom were wounded, escaped to Wilkesbarre.

“ Saturday morning, July 4. The enemy sent a hundred and sixty-nine scalps into fort Kingston, which they invested on the land side, and kept up a continual fire. This evening, Col. Z. Butler, with his family, quitted the fort, and went down the river. Col. Nathan Denison went with a flag to Exeter fort, to know of Col. John Butler what terms he would grant on a surrender. Butler answered, “ *the hatchet.*” Col. Denison returned to fort Kingston, which he defended till Sunday morning, when his men being nearly all killed or wounded, he could hold out no longer, and was obliged to surrender at discretion. The enemy took away

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\* When the Americans marched out to meet Col. John Butler and his Tories, &c., they all stimulated themselves with spirits. One of the soldiers, who had been habituated to use more than his comrades, had taken so freely of the boverage, that he had not travelled far, before he was unable to proceed and crawled into the bushes by the way side and fell asleep, when the seventy men fled. On their return, the soldier in the bush awoke, rubbed his eyes and discovering one of his neighbors running at full speed, and an Indian close behind him with his uplifted hatchet, about to strike his fellow soldier, he drew up his gun and killed the Indian on the spot. The other Indians coming in the rear, and hearing the report from the bushes, and seeing one of their number fall, at once concluded there must be a large body of men lying in ambush to kill them as they passed, and therefore retreated, by which the seventy men were saved. A solitary instance of saving life by drunkenness.

some of the unhappy prisoners, and shutting up the rest in the houses, set fire to them, and they were all consumed together. These infernals then crossed the river to fort Wilkesbarre, which in a few moments surrendered at discretion. About seventy of the men who had enlisted in the continental service to defend the frontiers, they inhumanly butchered, with every circumstance of horrid cruelty, and then, shutting up the rest, with the women and children, in the houses, set fire to them, and they all perished in the flames. After burning all the buildings in the fort, they proceeded to the destruction of every building and improvement, (except what belonged to some tories,) that came within their reach, in these once flourishing settlements, which they have rendered a scene of desolation and horror, almost beyond description, parallel, or credibility. When these miscreants had destroyed the other improvements, they proceeded to destroy the crops on the ground. Great numbers of the cattle they shot and destroyed; and *cutting out the tongues* of the others, left them to perish in misery. The course of these truly diabolical proceedings, was marked by many particular acts of distinguished enmity,—among which are the following:

“The Captains James Bidlock, Robert Durkee, and Samuel Ransom, being made prisoners by the enemy, they stripped Capt. Bidlock, tied him to a tree, and stuck him full of sharp splinters of pine knots; then piling a heap of pine knots around him, they set all on fire, put Durkee and Ransom into the fire, and held them down with pitchforks. Thomas Terry, (whose father was killed by the Indians, last Indian war,) *with his own hands, killed his own mother, his father-in-law, his sisters, and their families.* Partial Terry, the son of a man who bore a very respectable character, had several times sent his father word, that he ‘*hoped to wash his hands in his heart’s blood.*’ Agreeable to such a horrid declaration, the monster, with his own hand, *murdered his father, mother, brothers and sisters, stripped off their scalps, and cut off his father’s head.*

“Col. Zebulon Butler is supposed to be the only officer escaped. It is said he had several times written to Congress and Gen. Washington, acquainting them with the danger the settlement was in, and requesting assistance; but that he received no answer, except that, “he had no cause to fear, since the Indians were all for peace, and quite averse to war.” However, he lately



received a letter from Gen. Spaulding, acquainting him, that neither the Congress, nor Gen. Washington, had received any of his letters, which had been intercepted by the Pennsylvania Tories, who, in all probability, acted in concert with these execrable miscreants, against Wyoming. It is reported that these wretches, after completing their horrid business at Wyoming, are going, or have gone, to Cherry Valley, and the parts adjacent.

“We hear that a party of Infernals of the like kind, have, within this week or two, infested the parts about Leghaweigh, near Rochester, on the Minisink road to Philadelphia, where a party of them, about forty in number, have plundered and burnt several houses, abused some people, and carried off three men.

“The distress of the surviving inhabitants of that late flourishing settlement, are rendered striking objects of charity. Having escaped with little more than their lives, they could bring nothing with them,—hardly clothes to cover them, and nothing to eat. Many were two or three days without sustenance, and pregnant women were delivered in the woods.

“This, it is hoped, will be the concluding scene of the tragedy, acted by the British tyrant, and his murderous, diabolical emissaries, in a part of his late kingdom, which he has justly forfeited, and which is now forever departed from him.”

The able-bodied men of Wyoming were in the line of the army, and the settlement left unprotected,—the British, Tories, and savages, came down upon and slaughtered the inhabitants—devastated the settlement with fire and sword, to the total loss of houses, barns, cattle, and the year’s harvest, every thing but the naked soil. It was an exposed frontier, bordering on the Six Nations of Indians, numerous, fierce, and accustomed to war. From Tioga Point, where they could rendezvous, they could, in twenty-four hours, descend the Susquehannah in boats to Wyoming. Nearly the whole of the able-bodied men, fit to bear arms, had been called into the line, as continental troops, away from Wyoming; which fact exasperated the British and savages, and they breathed vengeance against a settlement which had shewn so much spirit in the cause of liberty. Their defenceless situation could not be concealed, and would naturally invite aggression. The hope of weakening the army, by forcing a recall of the veteran soldiers of Westmoreland, was probably their policy, which marked the new settlement an early victim.



The savages, were in possession of a part of the town—Tioga Point and Sheshequin, the first, their rendezvous, when they intended descending the river, which in fact were parts of Connecticut. The battle fought by Gen. Sullivan, in 1779, with the Indians, was within eight miles of the north line of the town—thus, indeed, were the inhabitants exposed.

In July, 1778, Col. John Butler, the tory, descended the Susquehannah, with four hundred British and tories, and about seven hundred Indians. To defend the settlement against such a force was a half-raised company of Capt. D. Hewitt's, of about forty men, and the remains of one militia regiment, from which Gore's, and the two independent companies of Durkee and Ransom, had been enlisted. There were several forts at Wyoming. The name fort, might convey some idea of a place of strength and places of security, with walls and embrasures, and with mounted guns. But in all Westmoreland, there was but one cannon, and that a four-pounder, without any balls, kept at the Wilkesbarre fort, as an alarm gun. And their forts were built by placing logs on end in ditches, compactly together, surrounding a space for a retreat for the women and children, defended only by small arms, fired through loop holes between the standing logs.—Against such a force as the enemy had mustered, none of their forts could have stood one hour, before they would be reduced to ashes and the inmates destroyed. Many of the aged men, not liable to do military duty, formed themselves into companies, to garrison these feeble forts and give to the helpless such protection as they were able.

Pittston, from its position, was immediately exposed ; no company was retained for its defence. The company from Lackawack, being forty miles distant, was not expected. The Huntington and Salem companies, twenty miles west, under Capt. John Franklin, did not arrive until the battle was over. The Wilkesbarre company assembled at Forty fort, on the Kingston side, under Capt. James Bidlock ; a company under Capt. William McKarrikan ; the Plymouth company, under Capt. Asaph Whittlesey ; the upper Wilkesbarre company, under Capt. R. G. Gore ; the Kingston company, under Capt. Aholiab Buck, and a new partly-raised continental company, under Capt. D. Hewitt. Each and every of which Captains fell at the head of their companies. There was spirit and courage enough, but men and arms

were greatly deficient, being only about four hundred men and boys, including many under 16 years of age. The grand-fathers and grey-headed turned out to the muster. Constant Searle, formerly of Stonington, had several children married and a family of grand-children. Capt. Hewitt had a son in the battle, 18 or 19 years of age. Boys were called into the companies to make a show of numbers. William Buck, (the son of Capt. A. Buck,) aged 14, was in the engagement, and fell with his father. These cases shew the distress and weakness to which the settlement was reduced, by their soldiers being absent in the army.

Col. Zebulon Butler happened to be at Wyoming, and though he had no proper command, the people invited him to place himself at their head, and lead them to battle, which invitation, out of duty, he accepted. Never was more courage displayed in the many scenes of the revolution, nor has history portrayed an instance of more gallant devotion. Though they were so situated, they must fight and conquer, or die, for retreating with their families was impossible—like brave men they took counsel of their courage—and on the 3d day of July, 1778, as before stated, they marched out to meet the enemy. Col. Z. Butler commanded the right wing, aided by Maj. Garrett: Col. Denison the left wing, aided by Lieut. Col. George Dorrance, of Voluntown. The field of battle was a plane, partly cleared of timber, though mostly covered by scrub oaks and yellow pine; their right rested on a steep bank, which descended to the low river flats; the left extended to a marsh, thickly covered with timber and brush.—The enemy were composed of Col. John Butler, with his company of rangers, (in their green uniform,) and their tory allies and Indians. The enemy's right wing, opposed to Col. Denison, was mostly composed of Indians. It was between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5 o'clock, P. M., when the bloody engagement began, and for awhile it kept up with great spirit.

On the right, in open field, our men fired and advanced a step, and the enemy gave back, but their numbers, three to one, enabled them to outflank the citizens, particularly on the left, where the ground was peculiarly fitted for savage warfare. The Americans rapidly fell before the Indian rifles: the rear as well as the flank was gained, and it became impossible to maintain their position. An order to fall back, to present a more imposing front to the enemy, could not be executed without confusion. The ene-

my, not more brave, but far more numerous and familiarized to war, in many battles, sprung forward, raised their horrid yell from one end of the line to the other, rushed in with their tomahawks and spears—defeat followed. They richly merited a better fate. One of the men yielded a little ground,—Col. Dorrance, a few moments before he fell, with his accustomed coolness, said to him, “stand up to your work, sir.”

After the enemy was in the rear, “see,” said an officer to Capt. Hewitt, “the enemy is in force behind us, shall we retreat?” “I’ll be d—d if I do,” he replied, and fell at the head of his men.

“We are nearly alone,” said Westbrook, “shall we go?” “I’ll have one more shot first,” replied Cooper; that instant a savage sprung towards him with his spear; Cooper stretched him upon the earth, and re-loaded his gun before he left the ground.

Then followed the most dreadful massacre, the most cruel and horrid slaughter, that took place in any State during the war. One of the Gore family was away in the army, five brothers and two brothers-in-law were in the battle; at evening five of them lay dead on the field, one returned with his arm broken by a rifle ball, and one unhurt—Silas and Asa Gore, both (ensigns) fell; the widow of Asa, with an infant son in her arms, fled on foot to Preston, where the orphan son resides. From the farm of a Mr. Weeks, (of Fairfield county) seven went out to the battle, five sons and sons-in-law, and two inmates—not one of them escaped, but all perished. About two-thirds of those who went out fell. John Abbott, of Windham county, was in the action and escaped, but was murdered by the Indians when trying to save a portion of his crop of harvest; and his house, barn and furniture, were all burnt; his cattle lost, his widow and nine children, the eldest a boy aged nine years, begged their way back to their friends in Windham county, in a state of utter destitution. Anderson Dana, Esq., had just returned from attending the General Assembly of Connecticut, (as a member) he went into the battle with Stephen Whiting, his son-in-law, wrapped in bloody garments, the field of death was the resting place of both; the family fled, Anderson Dana, the son, nine or ten years old, their only protector; their whole property was left to savage destruction; they also begged

their way to Ashford in this State ; the loss was estimated from two hundred and fifty to three hundred men.

The day after the massacre, Col. Z. Butler retired from the settlement, and Col. Denison entered into articles of capitulation, with Col. John Butler, in which security to the inhabitants was stipulated ; but the British commander, either could not or would not restrain the savages, who continued to rob and burn, and with very few exceptions, all the inhabitants were expelled from the valley, and their property given up a total prey to pillage and conflagration. It would be nearly impossible to estimate the amount of damage sustained, but the list of assessments in 1777—8, amounted to £20,322 17 ; and in November, 1780, the list of Westmoreland, was £2,353, making the difference of £17,969 17.

The miserable state of destitution in Wyoming, was such that in August, 1781, that all the males from sixteen to seventy years of age, were only 143 ; they all had but 24 yoke of oxen, 14 three year old steers, 18 two year old steers and heifers ; while at the same time Connecticut counted sixty-one soldiers from Westmoreland in the army.

It should be remarked here, that the people of Westmoreland were the greatest sufferers in this State, though not the least meritorious, but did not participate in the 500,000 acres of reserve lands, to indemnify the sufferers of New London, and other towns in Connecticut, who had been injured by the common enemy. When no part of the State drank more deeply of the afflictions of the revolution than Westmoreland, neither was the rich school fund of Connecticut divided with its fellow citizens at Wyoming, and though peace was made with Great Britain and the savages, it brought no peace to Wyoming, as they continued to be harassed by new and distressing conflicts ; their chief men, soldiers in war, and their counsellors in peace were slain, and most of such as remained were widows and orphans. But the sufferings did not close with the bloody battle of July, 1778. It appears by a manuscript journal kept by Col. John Jenkins, that in August, 1778, he joined Capt. Spalding's company, under Col. Butler, and marched on the 3d to Lehigh, and 4th to Wyoming, and found Indians driving off cattle, fired upon them and took the cattle with some horses. On the 5th had a skirmish with the Indians and took a number of blankets, &c. ;

7th, began to fortify with pickets, and continued till the 18th of August, when a party were discovered on Jacobs' plains, where John Abbott and Isaac Williams were killed and scalped. On the 19th, a widow Utly and her son, were killed; on the 22d, Esquire Tripp and Lieut. Keys, with six others, were taken prisoners, three of whom were released. September 14, Capt. Spalding marched with one hundred and thirty men to Muncy for an expedition up the river, and on the 29th were attacked by the Indians, and lost three men, but killed four Indians; and on the 1st of October, they returned to Wyoming. On the 2d three of Col. Morrows' men were killed on the west side of the river, the fourth man was scalped, but he recovered; Col. Hartly marched with a part of his troops for Shamokin, and began to work on the walls of the fort. On the 8th, Capt. Bush marched down with five prisoners. On the 14th, Wm. Jameson was killed near Capt. Stewarts. November 2d, the enemy at Slocum killed Nathan Kingsbury, and carried off two children. Nov. 5th, a party of the enemy at Nanticoke, burnt houses and grain, killed Jackson and Lester, and took off or killed Franklin; took Lester's family; murdered Hagaman; took old Kelly, but dismissed him; six fires at Lackawana, or near to it. Nov. 7, John Perkins was killed on the lower end of Shawney flats; Captains Carr and Goss were killed. Dec. 16, Esquires Tripp and Slocum were killed in Town Plot, and Young Slocum wounded. On the 10th of February, the Indians came down on the west side of the river in Kingston, and killed Lieut. Buck, Lieut. Williams, Stephen Pettibone, and speared and scalped Follet, (who recovered.) March 21, 1779, the Indians were discovered on the west side of the river in Kingston, where they took Capt. Bidlock; killed and carried off a number of horses and cattle; burnt houses and barns, when a skirmish of two hours was fought, but lost no men, though several were shot through their clothes, and their ramrods shot out of their hands. On the 24th of March, a party were discovered on the side near the fort, which they surrounded, and an engagement ensued for three hours; two men were wounded but soon recovered—the enemy withdrew in the evening after burning a number of houses, barns, grain, hay, &c. On the 26th, a number were discovered on the west side of the river, burning and plundering.

Without recapitulating farther from the Journal of Col. Jenkins, in this volume, I only add, that thus to the last of the war were the good people of Wyoming harassed, carried off by the Indians, tories and British, murdered and scalped.\*

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\* These facts are gathered from petitions to the General Assembly of Connecticut at different times.



**AN**

**EPITOME**

**OF ALL THE ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CONNEC-  
TICUT, FROM THE YEAR 1774, TO MAY SESSION, 1778,  
RELATING TO THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.**

**THE General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut, held on the second Thursday of May, at Hartford, being the 12th day of said month, and continued in session until the 4th day of June, A. D. 1774.**

**HON. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.**

**HON. MATTHEW GRISWOLD, Deputy Governor.**

**Jabez Hamlin, Shubael Conant, Elisha Sheldon, Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, William S. Johnson, Abraham Davenport, Joseph Spencer, Oliver Wolcott, James A. Hillhouse, Esq's., Assistants.**

**This day being appointed by the Royal Charter and the laws of this colony for the election of the public officers of the colony, viz.: Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, Treasurer and Secretary; proclamation was made in the manner accustomed, and then the votes of the freemen were given in to the persons appointed by the Assembly to receive, sort and count them, and to declare the names of such persons as should be chosen to any of the before mentioned offices according to law; which persons so appointed were Jabez Hamlin, Shubael Conant, Elisha Sheldon, Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, William Samuel Johnson, Oliver Wolcott, James Abraham Hillhouse, Esq's. Mr. Benjamin Payne, Mr. Titus Hosmer, Mr. Thomas Darling, Maj. James Wadsworth, Mr. Isaac Tracy, Mr. Thomas Mumford, Mr. Thomas Belding, Capt. Daniel Starr, Major Jedediah Elderkin, Mr. Samuel Craft, Mr. Joshua Porter, and Capt. Increase Mosely, who were all sworn to a faithful discharge of that trust.**

**And the votes of the freemen being brought in, sorted, and counted—**

**The Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, was chosen Governor of this colony for the year then ensuing.**

**HON. MATTHEW GRISWOLD, was chosen Deputy Governor of this colony, for the year then ensuing.**



Jabez Hamlin, Shubael Conant, Elisha Sheldon, Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, William Samuel Johnson, Abraham Davenport, Joseph Spencer, Oliver Wolcott, James Abraham Hillhouse, Esq's., were chosen Assistants for the year ensuing.

John Lawrence, Esq., was chosen Treasurer.

George Wylls, Esq., was chosen Secretary of "this colony for the year ensuing."

When the oaths of office were administered, as prescribed by the laws of the colony, and by the act of Parliament, as made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of His Majesty George the Third, to the several officers chosen.

Whereas the threatening aspect of Divine Providence on the Liberties of the people and the dangers they were threatened with, called for humiliation and prayer to the God of all mercies to avert his judgments and save his people.

Therefore it was Resolved by the Assembly, That his Honor the Governor be and is hereby desired to issue a Proclamation for appointing a day of public Fasting and Prayer, to be observed throughout the colony, at such time as he with the advice of the Council, shall think most proper, to humble ourselves before God for our sins, and supplicate his mercies that he would avert his judgments which threaten us.\*

May, 1774, Charles Burrall was appointed colonel of the 14th regiment, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the decease of Col. John Williams.

Joshua Porter, lieutenant colonel, 14th regiment, instead of Thomas Chittenden, removed out of the colony.

Capt. Ebenezer Gay, of Sharon, to be major of the 14th regiment, instead of Major Burrall, promoted.

Oliver Wolcott, Esq., to be colonel of the 17th regiment.

Ebenezer Norton, to be lieutenant colonel of the 17th regiment.

Epaphras Sheldon, Esq., to be major of the 17th regiment of militia, in this colony.

Jonathan Pettibone, Esq., colonel of the 18th regiment.

Jonathan Humphrey, Esq., lieutenant colonel of the 18th regiment.

Abel Merrell, Esq., to be major of the 18th regiment of militia, in the colony.

At the October session, 1774, the following Resolution was passed, (without stating the cause) doubling the munitions of war—to wit,

"Resolved by this Assembly, That the several towns in this colony be and are hereby ordered to provide as soon as may be, double the quantity of powder, ball and flints that they were heretofore by law obliged to provide, under the same directions and penalties as by law already provided."\*

11th volume of *Colony Record*, page 284—5; October, 1774—By the House of Representatives of the English colony of Connecticut, held on the second Thursday of May, 1774.

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\* This Resolution appears to be the first recorded evidence, that indicates the dangers apprehended by this colony of the war of the revolution, and the first act of the Legislature, upon that subject, though the subject matter is not openly declared, yet there is little doubt but the difficulties with the mother country were referred to in the above Resolutions. •

**This House taking into consideration sundry acts of the British Parliament, in which the power and right to impose duties and taxes upon his Majesty's subjects in the British colonies and plantations in America, for the purpose of raising a revenue only, are declared, attempted to be exercised, and in various ways enforced and carried into execution, and especially a very late act in which pains and penalties are inflicted on the Capital of a neighboring province; a precedent alarming to every British colony in America, and which being admitted and established, their lives, liberties and property are at the mercy of a tribunal where innocence may be punished, upon the accusation and evidence of wicked men, without defence, and without knowing its accusers, a precedent calculated to terrify them into silence and submission, whilst they are stripped of their invaluable rights and liberties, do think it expedient, and their duty at this time, to renew their claim to the rights, privileges and immunities of free born Englishmen, to which they are justly entitled, by the laws of nature, by the royal grant and charter of his late majesty king Charles the Second, and by long and uninterrupted possession, and thereupon—**

**Do Declare and Resolve as follows, to wit:—In the first place, We do most expressly declare, recognize and acknowledge His Majesty king George the Third to be the lawful and rightful king of Great Britain, and all other his dominions and countries; and that it is the indispensable duty of the people of this colony as being part of his majesty's dominion, always to bear faithful and true allegiance to his majesty, and him to defend to the utmost of their power against all attempts upon his person, crown and dignity.**

**2d. That the subjects of his majesty in this colony ever have had, and of right ought to have and enjoy all the liberties, immunities, and privileges of free and natural born subjects within any of the dominions of our said king, his heirs and successors to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever, as fully and amply, as if they and every one of them were born within the realm of England; that they have a property in their own estates, and are to be taxed by their own consent only, given in person or by their representatives, and are not to be disseized of their liberties or free customs, sentenced or condemned, but by lawful judgment of their peers, and that the said rights and immunities are recognized and confirmed to the inhabitants of this colony by the royal grant and charter aforesaid, and are their undoubted right to all intents, construction and purposes whatsoever.**

**3d. That the only lawful representatives of the freemen of this colony, are the persons they elect to serve as members of the General Assembly thereof.**

**4th. That it is the just right and privilege of his majesty's leige subjects of this colony to be governed by their General Assembly in the article of taxing and internal policy, agreeable to the powers and privileges recognized and confirmed in the royal charter aforesaid, which they have enjoyed for more than a century past, and have neither forfeited, nor surrendered, but the same have been constantly recognized by the king and Parliament of Great Britain.**

**5th. That the erecting now and annual courts of admiralty, and vesting them with extraordinary powers, above and not subject to the control of the common law courts in this colony, to judge and determine in suits relating to the duties and forfeitures contained in said acts, foreign to the accustomed and established jurisdiction of the former courts of admiralty in America, is in the opinion of this House, highly dangerous to the liberties of his majesty's Ameri-**

can subjects, contrary to the great charter of English liberty, and destructive of one of their most darling rights—that of trial by jury—which is justly esteemed one chief excellence of the British constitution, and a principal landmark of English liberty.

6th. That the apprehending and carrying persons beyond the sea to be tried for any crime alleged to be committed within this colony, or subjecting them to be tried by commissioners, or any court constituted by act of Parliament or otherwise within this colony, in a summary manner without a jury, is unconstitutional and subversive of the liberties and rights of the free subjects of this colony.

7th. That any harbor or port duly opened and constituted, cannot be shut up and discharged but by an act of the Legislature of the province or colony in which such port or harbor is situated, without subverting the rights and liberties and destroying the property of his majesty's subjects.

8th. That the late act of Parliament inflicting pains and penalties on the town of Boston, by blocking up their harbor, is a precedent justly alarming to the British colonies in America, and wholly inconsistent with, and subversive of, their constitutional rights and liberties.

9th. That whenever his majesty's service shall require the aid of the inhabitants of this colony, the same fixed principles of loyalty, as well as self-preservation, which have hitherto induced us fully to comply with his majesty's requisitions, together with the deep sense we have of its being our indispensable duty, in the opinion of this House, will ever hold us under the strongest obligations which can be given or desired, most cheerfully to grant his majesty from time to time our further proportion of men and money for the defence, protection, security and other services of the British American dominions.

10th. That we look upon the well being and greatest security of this colony to depend (under God) on our connexion with Great Britain, which is ardently wished may continue to the latest posterity. And that it is the humble opinion of this House that the constitution of this colony being understood and practised upon, as it has ever since it existed till very lately, is the secret bond of union, confidence and mutual prosperity of our mother country and us, and the best foundation on which to build the good of the whole, whether considered in a civil, military or mercantile light, and of the truth of this opinion we are the more confident, as it is not founded on speculation only, but has been verified in fact, and by long experience, found to produce, according to our extent and other circumstances, as many loyal, virtuous and well governed subjects as any part of his majesty's dominions, and as truly zealous, and as warmly engaged to promote the best good and real glory of the grand whole which constitutes the British empire.

11th. That it is an indispensable duty which we owe to our king, our country, ourselves, and our posterity, by all lawful ways and means in our power to maintain, defend, and preserve these our rights and liberties, and to transmit them entire and inviolate to the latest generation—and that it is our fixed determination and unalterable resolution faithfully to discharge this our duty.

In the Lower House.

The foregoing Resolutions being read distinctly three several times and considered, were voted and passed with great unanimity.—And it is further

voted and requested by the House, that the same be entered on the Records, and remain in the File of the General Assembly of this colony.

Test,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Clerk, H. R.

In the Upper House.

The consideration of the request of the Lower House, that the aforesaid Resolutions should be entered on the Records of the Assembly, &c., is referred to the General Assembly, to be holden at New Haven, on the second Thursday of October next.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

General Assembly, on the second Thursday of October, A. D., 1774.

In the Upper House.

On further consideration, &c., it is agreed and consented to, that the foregoing Resolutions, according to the request of the Lower House, be entered on the Record, and remain on the File of the General Assembly of this colony.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

At the March Term of the General Assembly, 1775, the following officers were commissioned for the several military offices attached to each, most of whom afterwards proved themselves the flower of the American army, viz. :—

Jedediah Eldarkin, to be colonel of the 15th regiment of militia.

Experience Storrs, to be lieutenant colonel of the 15th regiment.

Thomas Brown, to be major of the 15th regiment.

Increase Mosely, Jr., to be lieutenant colonel of the 13th regiment.

Samuel Canfield, to be major of the 13th regiment.

Matthew Talcott, to be lieutenant colonel of the 6th regiment.

Thomas Belding, of Wethersfield, major of 6th regiment.

Andrew Ward, Jr., to be colonel of the 7th regiment.

Isaac Lee, Jr., to be colonel of the 15th regiment.

Fisher Gay, to be lieutenant colonel of the 15th regiment.

Simeon Strong, to be major of the 15th regiment.

William Worthington, to be lieutenant colonel of the 7th regiment.

Sylvanus Graves, to be major of the 7th regiment.

Charles Webb, to be colonel of the 9th regiment.

David Waterbury, Jr., to be lieutenant colonel of the 9th regiment—all of the militia of the colony of Connecticut.

At the April Term of the General Assembly, 1775, a Resolution was passed, that an embargo should be forthwith laid upon the exportation out of the colony by any water carriage, of the following articles, viz. :—"Wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork, beef, live cattle, peas and beans, bread, flour, and every kind of meat, except necessary stores for vessels, bound to sea." And the Governor was desired to issue his proclamation laying such embargo, and prohibiting the exportation of such provisions, which embargo was ordered to continue until the 20th day of May then next.

As clouds of danger were constantly now gathering over this country from the throne, it became necessary to prepare to meet the crisis, particularly to be able to communicate with each other in the different parts of the colony, over a mountainous and rough country, and rougher roads. To do which, the Legislature passed a resolution at said April term, that Thaddeus Burr, of

Fairfield, and Charles Church Chandler, of Woodstock, at the expense of the colony, should employ two news carriers to perform regular stages from Fairfield to Woodstock, and from Woodstock to Fairfield, so as to arrive in Hartford each Saturday, and forward all proper intelligence, through the country, to and from the towns mentioned, with all convenient speed. Also that Gurdon Saltonstall, of New London, should engage two news carriers at the expense of the colony, to perform regular stages from Woodstock to New Haven, on the Fairfield stage, in such manner that they should severally arrive in New London on each Saturday, and forward all their intelligence on every Monday morning to Woodstock and New Haven. Also that Thaddeus Burr and C. C. Chandler, and said Saltonstall, should be a committee to forward at the public expense, all such extraordinary and important intelligence which should be received at either place, as should to the committee appear proper and necessary, which act was to be continued in force until the session of the General Assembly in May, and no longer.

It had been represented to the Assembly that sundry acts of hostility and violence had lately been committed in Massachusetts Bay, by which many lives had been lost, and that some inhabitants of this colony had gone to the relief of those who were in distress at the Bay. It was Resolved by the Assembly, that Capt. Joseph Trumbull and Amasa Keyes, should be a committee to procure provisions for the families of those who had gone to the relief of the people at the Bay, and to superintend the delivery and apportioning the same among them.\*

Soon after, during the session in April, the Legislature, finding it prudent and necessary to make open preparation, passed an act for assembling, equipping, &c., a number of the inhabitants of the colony, for the special defence and safety thereof, viz.: that one-fourth part of the militia of the colony should be forthwith enlisted, equipped, accoutred and assembled for the safety and defence of the colony and under the order of the Assembly, and to be distributed into companies of one hundred men each—formed into six regiments, under the command of a major general, assisted by two brigadier generals, each of which general officers were to take the command of a regiment as colonel; and each regiment to be commanded by a colonel, lieutenant colonel, and major; also to command a company as captain—and each general officer to be assisted by two majors to his regiment, together with one captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign; also one adjutant, one quarter master, one chaplain, one surgeon, and two surgeon's mates to each regiment, enlisted during the pleasure of this Assembly, not exceeding seven months; giving a premium of 52s. per man, advanced to each non-commissioned officer and inhabitant upon his enlistment, if they supplied themselves with a blanket, knapsack, clothing, &c., to the acceptance of their captains, and one month advance pay should be made to each of said officers and enlisted inhabitants.

The Legislature established the rate of pay per each calendar month, viz.: to the major general, £20; brigadier general, £17; colonel, £15; lieutenant

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\* The above resolution shews with what cautious steps the Legislature moved, they dare not mention even the name of Lexington, as our own act for treason was yet unrepealed. The words used by the Legislature shew the true yankee character.

colonel, £12; major, £10; captain, £6; lieutenant, £4; ensign, £3; adjutant, £5 10; quarter master, £3; chaplain, £6; surgeon, £7 10; surgeon's mate, £4; sergeant, £2 8; corporal, £2 4; fifer and drummer, £2 4; and each private, £2.

It was farther enacted that those so enlisted should be furnished with good fire arms, belonging to the colony, if they were unable to furnish themselves; and if they found their own arms, to be paid 10s. for the use of such arms.—And in case that more arms should be required, arms were to be impressed from householders not enrolled; ten shillings was awarded to all such as freely hired their guns, cartouch box and bayonet for the soldiers.—And it was farther enacted that 3,000 stand of arms should be procured as soon as might be, and held in readiness for use for the defence of the colony; also was ordered 500 spades, as many pick-axes, 300 narrow axes, and 500 tents for the use of the colony.

To encourage the inhabitants to enlist in defence of their country as speedily as possible, a premium of 52s. was to be paid at the time of enlistment, and one months advanced pay, and the wages raised of all concerned during their continuance in service; and if their arms should be lost in service, by accident, the colony was to pay the just value of such arms; also that each so enlisted should be entitled to six pence per day for billeting money, until provided for by the colony stores.

It was also resolved that the 3,000 arms ordered to be procured for the colony, should measure each barrel, three feet ten inches, diameter of the bore three-fourths of an inch; bayonet blade, fourteen inches long, &c., with iron ram-rods, and a spring in the lowest loop to secure the rods, a good lock and stock, well mounted with brass, and the name of the maker on it.

The Legislature during said session also constituted forms of enlistment for all general, staff, and other officers; and the Governor was desired and empowered to sign and deliver orders to the respective officers appointed to enlist men for the service, and for the purposes set forth in said order on record.

Immediately after the laws specified before and during the same session in April, 1775, the officers for six regiments were appointed to take the command of the enlisted troops for the defence of the colony; when the Governor was desired and authorized to commission said officers according to their rank, and warrants for the staff, as follows, viz.:

David Wooster, Esq., to be major general.

Joseph Spencer, Esq., brigadier general.

Israel Putnam, Esq., second brigadier general.

#### FIRST REGIMENT.

Major general David Wooster, colonel of the 1st regiment, and captain of 1st company.

1st company, 1st regiment—Jesse Leavenworth, 1st lieutenant; James Blakeley, 2d lieutenant; Amos Shepard, ensign.

Andrew Ward, Jr., Esq., lieutenant colonel of the 1st regiment, and captain of 2d company.

2d company, 1st regiment—Stephen Hall, 1st lieutenant; Jehul Meigs, Jr. 2d lieutenant; Augustus Collins, ensign.

Jabez Thompson, 1st major of the 1st regiment, and captain of 3d company.

3d company, 1st regiment—Bradford Steel, 1st lieutenant; Ambrose Hind, 2d lieutenant; Nathan Pierson, ensign.

David Welch, 2d major of the 1st regiment, and 2d captain of 4th company. 4th company, 1st regiment—Bezaleel Beebo, 1st lieutenant; Aaron Foot, 2d lieutenant; Thomas Catlin, ensign.

5th company, 1st regiment—Benedict Arnold, captain; Caleb Trowbridge, 1st lieutenant; Jesse Curtis, 2d lieutenant; Nathan Edwards, ensign.

6th company, 1st regiment—William Douglass, captain; Samuel Blackman, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Jared Robertson, 2d lieutenant; Ebenezer Trusdel, ensign.

7th company, 1st regiment—Isaac Cooper, Jr., captain; John Hough, 1st lieutenant; Thomas Shepard, 2d lieutenant; James Peck, ensign.

8th company, 1st regiment—Phineas Porter, captain; Stephen Matthews, 1st lieutenant; Isaac Brownson, 2d lieutenant; David Smith, ensign.

9th company, 1st regiment—James Arnold captain; Samuel Wilmott, 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Bunnell, 2d lieutenant; Philemon Potter, ensign.

10th company, 1st regiment—Samuel Peck, Jr., captain; John Fowler, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Israel Terrell, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Doolittle, ensign.

This Assembly do appoint Rev. Benjamin Trumbull, chaplain for the 1st regiment.

Jared Potter, surgeon.

Levi Ives and Isaac Chalker, surgeon's mates.

#### · SECOND REGIMENT.

This Assembly do appoint Joseph Spencer, colonel of the 2d regiment and captain of 1st company.

1st company—Samuel Cone, Jr., 1st lieutenant; James Smith, 2d lieutenant; Joel Arnold, ensign.

Samuel Wyllys, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company,

2d company—Ezekiel Scott, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Cooper, 2d lieutenant; Marcus Cole, ensign.

Roger Enos, 1st major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Elijah Robinson, 1st lieutenant; Silas Blodget, 2d lieutenant; Benjamin Farlee, ensign.

Return J. Meigs, 2d major, and captain of 4th company.

4th company—Elijah Blackman, 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer Sumner, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Savage, ensign.

5th company—Solomon Willes, captain; Jonathan Parker, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Fitch, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Noah Chapin, ensign.

6th company—Noadiah Hooker, captain; Peter Curtiss, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Byington, 2d lieutenant; Amos Wadsworth, ensign.

7th company—Abel Pettibone, captain; Amasa Mills, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Forward, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Pettibone, ensign.

9th company—John Chester, captain; Barnabas Deane, 1st lieutenant; Stephen Goodrich, 2d lieutenant; Charles Butler, ensign.

10th company—John Harman, captain; Samuel Wright, 1st lieutenant; Consider Willeston, 2d lieutenant; Oliver Hanchet, ensign.

8th company—Levi Welles, captain; James Ransom, 1st lieutenant; John Isham, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Palmer, ensign.

Rev. Benjamin Boardman, chaplain.

William Jepson, surgeon.

Daniel Southmayd and John Richard Watrous, surgeon's mates.



THIRD REGIMENT.

This Assembly do appoint Israel Putnam, colonel of the 3d regiment, and captain of 1st company.

1st company—Jonathan Kingsley, 1st lieutenant; Thomas Grosvenor, 2d lieutenant; Elijah Loomis, ensign.

Experience Storrs, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—James Dana, 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer Gray, 2d lieutenant; Isaac Farewell, ensign.

John Durkee, major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Joshua Huntington, 1st lieutenant; Jacobus Delbet, 2d lieutenant; Lemuel Bingham, ensign.

Obadiah Johnson, 2d major, and captain of 4th company.

4th company—Ephraim Lyon, 1st lieutenant; Wells Clift, 2d lieutenant; Isaac Hide, Jr., ensign.

5th company—Thomas Knowlton, Jr., captain; Reuben Marcey, 1st lieutenant; John Keyes, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Allen, Jr., ensign.

6th company—James Clark, captain; Daniel Tilden, 1st lieutenant; Andrew Fitch, 2d lieutenant; Thomas Bell, ensign.

7th company—Ephraim Manning, captain; Stephen Lyon, 1st lieutenant; Asa Morris, 2d lieutenant; William Irissell, ensign.

8th company—Joseph Elliott, captain; Benoni Cutler, 1st lieutenant; Daniel Waters, 2d lieutenant; Comfort Day, ensign.

9th company—Ebenezer Mosely, captain; Stephen Brown, 1st lieutenant; Melaliah Bingham, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Wales, ensign.

10th company—Israel Putnam, Jr., captain; Samuel Robinson, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Amos Avery, 2d lieutenant; Caleb Stanley, ensign.

Rev. Abiel Leonard, chaplain.

John Spalding, surgeon.

Penuel Cheeny and Elijah Adams, surgeon's mates.

FOURTH REGIMENT.

This Assembly do appoint Benjamin Hinman, colonel of the 4th regiment, and captain of the 1st company.

1st company—David Hinman, 1st lieutenant; Benjamin Hungerford, 2d lieutenant; Asahel Hurd, ensign.

George Pitkin, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—Isaac Fellows, 1st lieutenant; David Bissell, 2d lieutenant; Edward Payne, ensign.

Samuel Ellmore, major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Amos Chappel, 1st lieutenant; Oliver Parmaly, 2d lieutenant; Moses Shepard, ensign.

4th company—Nathaniel Bull, captain; Timothy Holcomb, 1st lieutenant; Luther Stoddard, 2d lieutenant; Nathan Dawsey, ensign.

5th company—Shubael Griswold, captain; Benjamin Mills, 1st lieutenant; Aaron Austin, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Caleb Lyman, ensign.

6th company—Josiah Starr, captain; Asaph Hull, 1st lieutenant; Paul Yates, 2d lieutenant; Asahel Hodge, ensign.

7th company—Eleazer Curtiss, captain; John Ransom, 1st lieutenant; Morgan Noble, 2d lieutenant; John Rockwell, ensign.



8th company—John Sedgwick, captain; Warham Gibbs, 1st lieutenant; James Thomson, 2d lieutenant; Matthew Patterson, ensign.

9th company—John Watson, Jr., captain; Theodore Woodbridge, 1st lieutenant; Titus Watson, 2d lieutenant; John Hull, ensign.

10th company—Hezekiah Parsons, captain; Hezekiah Holdridge, 1st lieutenant; John Skinner, 2d lieutenant; Ebenezer Watson, ensign.

Rev. Cotton Mather Smith, chaplain.

Lemuel Wheeler, surgeon.

Daniel Sheldon and Abel Catlin, surgeon's mates.

#### FIFTH REGIMENT.

David Waterbury, Jr., colonel of the 5th regiment, and captain of the 1st company.

1st company—Sylvanus Brown, 1st lieutenant; Jonathan Whiting, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Hoit, ensign.

Samuel Whiting, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—Elijah Beach, 1st lieutenant; Robert Walker, 2d lieutenant; Abijah Starling, ensign.

Thomas Hobby, major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Bezaleel Brown, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Lockwood, Jr., 2d lieutenant; John Waterbury, the 5th ensign.

4th company—David Dimon, captain; Peter Hendrick, 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer Hill, 2d lieutenant; Wakeman Burr, ensign.

5th company—Matthew Mead, captain; Levi Taylor, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Cannon, 2d lieutenant; William Seymour, ensign.

6th company—Noble Benedict, captain; James Clark, 1st lieutenant; Ephraim Lyon, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Hicox, ensign.

7th company—Abraham Gray, captain; Stephen Wakeman, 1st lieutenant; Thaddeus Rockwell, 2d lieutenant; George Burr, ensign.

8th company—Joseph Smith, Jr., captain; Abel Botsford, J., 1st lieutenant; Nathan Blackman, 2d lieutenant; Silas Hubbel, ensign.

9th company—Nehemiah Beardslee, captain; Samuel Keeler, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Zephaniah Briggs, 2d lieutenant; William Benedict, ensign.

10th company—Zalmon Read, captain; Peter Fairchild, 1st lieutenant; David Peet, 2d lieutenant; Benjamin Nichols, ensign.

Rev. Samuel Wood, chaplain.

John Wood, surgeon.

Asel Fitch and Samuel Whiting, surgeon's mates.

#### SIXTH REGIMENT.

Samuel Holden Parsons, Esq., colonel of the 6th regiment, and captain of the 1st company.

1st company—David Fisher Sill, 1st lieutenant; Christopher Ely, 2d lieutenant; Elisha Wade, ensign.

John Tyler, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—Elnathan Rossiter, 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer Brewster, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Hillyard, ensign.

Samuel Prentice, major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—James Eldridge, 1st lieutenant; Richard Hewit, 2d lieutenant; Oliver Babcock, ensign.

4th company—William Coit, captain; Jedediah Hide, 1st lieutenant; James Day, 2d lieutenant; William Adams, ensign.

5th company—James Chapman, Jr., captain; Christopher Darrow, 1st lieutenant; John Raymond, Jr., 2d lieutenant; George Lattimore, ensign.

6th company—Waterman Cleft, captain; William Edmond, 1st lieutenant; John McGregor, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Morgan, ensign.

7th company—Edward Mott, captain; Benjamin Throop, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Jeremiah Halsey, 2d lieutenant; Nathan Peters, ensign.

8th company—Samuel Gale, captain; Josiah Baldwin, 1st lieutenant; Elisha Lee, 2d lieutenant; David Nevins, ensign.

9th company—John Ely, captain; Abraham Waterhouse, 1st lieutenant; Martin Kirtland, 2d lieutenant; Israel Doan, ensign.

10th company—Abel Speer, captain; Isaac Gallop, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Williams, 3d, 2d lieutenant; William Latham, 2d, ensign.

Rev. Stephen Johnson, chaplain.

Philip Turner, surgeon.

Thomas Fosdick and Benjamin Ellis, surgeon's mates.

(These six regiments of men were the first enlisted troops in Connecticut, raised for the revolutionary war; and I discover in the list of the officers, the names of many, who survived the war, and lived to honor the highest court in the State, and the legislative halls of the State and Nation.)

The Legislature in April, 1775, passed a resolve, that should the officers so appointed refuse to accept the trust, or should vacancies occur, by death, &c., the Governor was to fill the vacancies, and commission the officers that he should appoint.

At the same session of the Assembly, Capt. Joseph Trumbull was appointed commissary general, to take charge of the provisions purchased at Salem, by Brigadier General Spencer, or any other provisions that should be sent to him, for the inhabitants, either enlisting or assembling for special defence of the colony, who was to distribute such provisions among them; also to purchase further supplies, if he could purchase on better terms, than in this colony; and was directed to report his doings, for the direction of the commissaries employed in this colony.

At the same time, Oliver Wolcott, Henry Champion, Thomas Mumford, Jedediah Strong, Jeremiah Wadsworth, Thomas Howell, Samuel Squire, Amasa Keyes, and Hezekiah Bissell, were appointed commissaries to supply all necessary stores and provisions for the troops then to be raised under the previous order of the Assembly.

Commissary Trumbull was, by a resolution, then directed by the Legislature to purchase immediately, one hogshead of New England rum, and one hundred tin kettles; and Commissary Wadsworth, to procure as soon as might be, one hundred tin kettles, fifty barrels of pork, fifty bushels of peas and beans, and immediately forward the peas and beans to the commissary general, together with two hundred weight of bread; Commissary Bissell, was directed to procure sixty barrels of pork, and forty-two hundred pounds of bread; the commissary in Litchfield county, was directed to procure twenty barrels of pork, and eight thousand pounds of bread; and each of the commissaries for the counties of New London, New Haven and Fairfield, were directed to procure for the army, fifty barrels of pork, and twenty thousand pounds of bread.

These were the first stores ordered or procured by Connecticut for the army.

During the same session, William Pitkin, Thomas Seymour, Oliver Ellsworth, and Ezekiel Williams, Esq's., or any three of them, were appointed a committee with full power to examine, liquidate, settle, and give needful orders for the payment of the several accounts of expenses that had been, or should be incurred relative to the assembling, equipping, supporting, or paying wages to such of the colony as should, or might enlist or assemble for the defence of the colony, for the then eurrent year; and said committee were to act under the orders of the General Assembly.

The committee of Pay Table, were empowered to take bonds with sureties, of each commissary; in which bond such commissary was obliged faithfully and justly to dispose of all money he should receive, and account with the committee of Pay Table for the same.

It was also enacted that the chief officers and captains of the several companies then to be enlisted, should be the pay masters of their respective companies; and the committee of pay table were directed to take bonds with sureties of each captain, or other person who should act as pay master, and account also with the committee of pay table; and receive as a compensation for such service, one and a half per cent.

The immense amount of money required at this time, by the colony, to equip their recruits, provision and march them, in the then impoverished state of the country, could not be procured on so sudden an emergency. The Legislature, therefore, bold and daring in the enterprize, it being a war for their dearest rights and their liberty; passed an act (in April, 1775) that there should be forthwith imprinted the sum of *fifty thousand pounds*, bills of credit on the colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations as the committee should direct, and of the same tenor with the (then) late emission of bills of credit, without interest, and payable at or before the 10th day of May, 1777; and dated the 10th day of May, 1775. William Pitkin, George Wyllys, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, and Thomas Seymour, Esq's., or any three of them, were appointed a committee to take charge of imprinting said bills, with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of the colony, taking his receipt therefor, and the Treasurer was to pay the same out of the Treasury, under orders of the Assembly.

And providing for a Sinking Fund, a tax of seven pence on the pound, was levied on all the polls and rateable estate in the colony, to be paid by the 10th day of May, 1777, in bills of credit of this emission, or lawful money, and the Treasurer was ordered to issue his warrants to collect the same.

The colony powder, was ordered by the Legislature to be placed in the hands of one gentleman in each county, in the colony, viz.: Capt. Jabez Huntington, to take charge of all the powder in Windham county; Winthrop Saltonstall, in New London, and Jabez Huntington, of such as should be lodged in Norwich. That 28 half barrels of powder lodged at New Haven, should be sent into Fairfield county, to the care of Thaddeus Burr; and that 14 half barrels of powder at New Haven, be sent to the care of Lynde Lord, Esq., at Litchfield, and the remainder of the powder at New Haven, to be taken charge of by Jonathan Fitch, Esq., of New Haven—all of which powder was to remain in the care of said persons, subject only to the order of the General Assembly, except on some sudden emergency, then by order of the selectmen of the several towns where lodged.

It was also resolved that if any more powder should be sent into the colony for colony use, that a suitable proportion should be delivered to John Lawrence, Esq., of Hartford, and the remainder distributed into the several counties in suitable proportions, to the care of the gentlemen above named.

April, 1775. Robert Fairchild, Esq., and Daniel Judson, were appointed by the Assembly, to enquire after, and take charge of, for the use of the colony, all stores of the camp of a military kind, owned by the colony, or which could be found with the heirs of Theophilus Nichols, Esq., then late deceased, and a commissary of the government, &c., and report the next session of said Assembly.

April, 1775. Jedediah Strong, was also appointed to enquire at Albany, for arms belonging to this colony, left there during the last war, and return them as soon as might be.

April, 1775. Daniel Lyman, Enos Allyn, Thomas Howell, Dudley Woodbridge, Joseph Denison, 2d, Stephen Babcock, Gurdon Saltonstall, Thomas Mumford, John Lay, John Deshon, Richard Dickinson, and John McCurdy, were appointed a committee by the Legislature, to consider on the best method and means of securing, defending, and protecting the sea coast, ports and shipping in the colony; to state facts, and report their opinions thereon to said Assembly in May (then) next, without expense to the colony.

The Legislature appointed Col. Gurdon Saltonstall, Samuel Mott, Esq., and Capt. John Deshon, a committee forthwith to prepare carriages and necessary apparatus for the cannon at New London, so that they might be put in the best order for use, in case of necessity for defence.

A resolution was passed authorizing the Governor to give Brig. Gen. Spencer an order, to direct the colonels of the six regiments under his command, to order the respective captains, to forward the enlistments of men for the special service, defence, and safety of the colony, and to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice. And the four regiments commanded by Brig's. Spencer and Putnam, and Col's. Hinman and Parsons, or such part of them as the Governor should order, forthwith to be in readiness, and march to Boston, or to some place contiguous, as should be ordered.

An act was passed repealing the act constituting the action of *Book Debt*—the Legislature believing, if it existed, many accounts would be barred by the statute of limitations, in time of war, to the prejudice of officers and soldiers, who were necessarily absent from their homes.

Also for the same reasons, was an act passed, exempting debtors from imprisonment for debt, and releasing those who were in prison for debt, on execution or attachment; which act was to continue in force until the rising of the Legislature in October (then) next.

NOTE. John Patterson, Esq. of Piermont, of the province of N. Hampshire, agent of said town, preferred a petition in favor of said Piermont, stating its exposed situation to Quebec, at that alarming period, and expecting an attack by the French and Indians from Canada; that said town had voted to supply themselves with arms and ammunition, of which they were nearly destitute; and being without money in the infant state of the town, prayed the colony of Connecticut to sell them fifty pounds of powder, offering their note, with security, to be paid in May, 1776, with interest, and signed by John Patterson, Agent.

A resolution passed, directing the powder to be delivered, and to take said Patterson's note for the same, payable the 1st day of May, 1776, with interest.

An enquiry was had in the town of Waterbury, as to the major part of a company who were discovered to be inimical to the American cause, composed of officers and soldiers ; the *true whigs* praying to be annexed to a new company. A committee was appointed, consisting of Thomas Matthevson and Timothy Judd, to examine the facts, and report to the next Assembly.

Joseph Munson, of New Haven, and Joseph Webb, of Wethersfield, had leave given to export to the West India Islands, 46 cattle and 80 barrels of pork, which had been purchased before the laying of the embargo.

The session of the Assembly was closed by passing the following preamble and resolution, viz. :

Considering the dark and gloomy aspect of Divine Providence, over this colony and land, and that it is the indispensable duty of every people suffering under the afflictive chastisements of a righteous God, with deep repentance, supplication, and amendment of life, to endeavor by all the ways which God has prescribed, to avert his anger and incline him to become reconciled to his people.

It is therefore Resolved by this Assembly, That it be recommended to all the Ministers of the Gospel in this colony, that they earnestly endeavor to dissuade their several congregations from all excess and all diversions which may be improper in the present day of distress ; and that both they and their people cry mightily to God, that he would be pleased to spare his people, and be gracious unto them, and visit them with his loving kindness and tender mercies, and not give up his heritage to reproach ; but preserve unto them their great and important rights and privileges, and guide and prosper the public counsels of this colony and land ; and in this hour of difficulty and distress, graciously manifest his power in the deliverance and salvation of his people, to the glory of his own name.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### MAY SESSION,

Held on the 11th day of said month, A. D. 1775, and continued in session until the 31st day of said May.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

The same Assistants, (Conant absent.)

At this session of the Assembly, the town of Westmoreland was to form the 24th regiment, with all the powers, privileges, and advantages that other regiments of the colony had.

A sum of money being required to defray the incidental charges of Government, it was enacted forthwith to print fifty thousand pounds, in bills of credit on the colony, equal to lawful money, of the tenor of the last emission of bills of credit, without interest, payable by the 1st day of June, 1778, to be dated the

1st day of June, A. D. 1775; and Jabez Hamlin, Wm. Pitkin, George Wylls, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, Thomas Seymour, and Jesse Root, Esq's., or any three of them were to be a committee to see that said bills were immediately printed, and to sign and deliver them to the Treasurer of the colony. And as a Sinking Fund, a tax of seven pence on the pound was granted, and ordered to be levied on all the polls and rateable estate in the colony, payable into the Treasury by the 1st of June, A. D. 1778; payable also in bills of this emission or lawful money. Warrants were issued to collect said tax.\*

The embargo laid by the Assembly in April last, was continued on the articles mentioned in said act, until the 1st day of August (then) next, and the Governor was so directed to make proclamation, reserving to the Governor and Council, power to discontinue in whole or part at an earlier time, if they should judge it expedient.

The Legislature ordered that there should be provided 90 marques or officer's tents, 500 tents for privates, and cloth for 48 tents, 460 tents for private soldiers, 1092 iron pots that would contain about ten quarts each, if pots could not be procured, then to purchase tin kettles and 1098 pails; two brass kettles of ten gallon size, for the use of each company; 2,500 wooden bowls; four frying pans for each company; 6,000 quart rumlets; 60 drums, and 120 fises for the use of said troops; six standards, one for each regiment, distinguished by their color, as follows, viz.: for the 1st regiment, yellow; for the 2d, blue; for the 3d, scarlet; for the 4th, crimson; for the 5th, white; for the 6th, azure—a medicine chest and apparatus, to the value not exceeding £40, for each regiment; a set of surgical instruments for the whole corps on each destination, and such medicine as should be left, to be returned to the colony; 70 books, each in quarto of one quire each, covered with cartridge paper; 2 reams of writing paper; 10 reams of paper for cartridges; one cart or wagon for each company. Allowed to the troops three-fourths of a pound of pork or one pound of beef, one pound of bread or flour, three pints of beer to each man per day, beef to be fresh two days in a week; also a half pint of rice or a pint of Indian meal; 6 ounces of butter; three pints of peas or beans, to each man per week. Also one gill of rum to each man upon *fatigue* per day, and at no other time; milk, molasses, candles, soap, vinegar, coffee, chocolate, sugar, tobacco, onions in the season, and vegetables be provided for said troops at the discretion of the general and field officers.

That 1s. and 6d. be paid to each man that should supply himself three pounds of ball; 3s. for a pound of powder; 3d. for six flints; otherwise to be supplied from the town stock, or out of the colony ammunition. Soldiers marching east, to be furnished out of the colony stock at New London, Norwich, and Windham, or Mansfield; and two assistants or justices to adjust the accounts of what should be received of the towns, and the pay table give an order on the Treasurer. The pay masters to keep the ammunition account for such as provide for themselves, ball, powder, &c. The flints to be distributed to each county, and one ton of the balls in the care of the Treasurer to be sent to Windham.

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\* It will be observed that in April, an emission of £50,000 of bills of credit were issued, making in April and May, £100,000 in bills of credit, issued within two months, and the colony taxed fourteen pence on the pound to redeem the bills.

These were the first stores ordered or procured by Connecticut for the army.

During the same session, William Pitkin, Thomas Seymour, Oliver Ellsworth, and Ezekiel Williams, Esq's., or any three of them, were appointed a committee with full power to examine, liquidate, settle, and give needful orders for the payment of the several accounts of expenses that had been, or should be incurred relative to the assembling, equipping, supporting, or paying wages to such of the colony as should, or might enlist or assemble for the defence of the colony, for the then current year; and said committee were to act under the orders of the General Assembly.

The committee of Pay Table, were empowered to take bonds with sureties, of each commissary; in which bond such commissary was obliged faithfully and justly to dispose of all money he should receive, and account with the committee of Pay Table for the same.

It was also enacted that the chief officers and captains of the several companies then to be enlisted, should be the pay masters of their respective companies; and the committee of pay table were directed to take bonds with sureties of each captain, or other person who should act as pay master, and account also with the committee of pay table; and receive as a compensation for such service, one and a half per cent.

The immense amount of money required at this time, by the colony, to equip their recruits, provision and march them, in the then impoverished state of the country, could not be procured on so sudden an emergency. The Legislature, therefore, bold and daring in the enterprize, it being a war for their dearest rights and their liberty; passed an act (in April, 1775) that there should be forthwith imprinted the sum of *fifty thousand pounds*, bills of credit on the colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations as the committee should direct, and of the same tenor with the (then) late emission of bills of credit, without interest, and payable at or before the 10th day of May, 1777; and dated the 10th day of May, 1775. William Pitkin, George Wylls, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, and Thomas Seymour, Esq's., or any three of them, were appointed a committee to take charge of imprinting said bills, with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of the colony, taking his receipt therefor, and the Treasurer was to pay the same out of the Treasury, under orders of the Assembly.

And providing for a Sinking Fund, a tax of seven pence on the pound, was levied on all the polls and rateable estate in the colony, to be paid by the 10th day of May, 1777, in bills of credit of this emission, or lawful money, and the Treasurer was ordered to issue his warrants to collect the same.

The colony powder, was ordered by the Legislature to be placed in the hands of one gentleman in each county, in the colony, viz.: Capt. Jabez Huntington, to take charge of all the powder in Windham county; Winthrop Saltonstall, in New London, and Jabez Huntington, of such as should be lodged in Norwich. That 28 half barrels of powder lodged at New Haven, should be sent into Fairfield county, to the care of Thaddeus Burr; and that 14 half barrels of powder at New Haven, be sent to the care of Lynde Lord, Esq., at Litchfield, and the remainder of the powder at New Haven, to be taken charge of by Jonathan Fitch, Esq., of New Haven—all of which powder was to remain in the care of said persons, subject only to the order of the General Assembly, except on some sudden emergency, then by order of the selectmen of the several towns where lodged.



It was also resolved that if any more powder should be sent into the colony for colony use, that a suitable proportion should be delivered to John Lawrence, Esq., of Hartford, and the remainder distributed into the several counties in suitable proportions, to the care of the gentlemen above named.

April, 1775. Robert Fairchild, Esq., and Daniel Judson, were appointed by the Assembly, to enquire after, and take charge of, for the use of the colony, all stores of the camp of a military kind, owned by the colony, or which could be found with the heirs of Theophilus Nichols, Esq., then late deceased, and a commissary of the government, &c., and report the next session of said Assembly.

April, 1775. Jedediah Strong, was also appointed to enquire at Albany, for arms belonging to this colony, left there during the last war, and return them as soon as might be.

April, 1775. Daniel Lyman, Enos Allyn, Thomas Howell, Dudley Woodbridge, Joseph Denison, 2d, Stephen Babcock, Gurdon Saltonstall, Thomas Mumford, John Lay, John Deshon, Richard Dickinson, and John McCurdy, were appointed a committee by the Legislature, to consider on the best method and means of securing, defending, and protecting the sea coast, ports and shipping in the colony; to state facts, and report their opinions thereon to said Assembly in May (then) next, without expense to the colony.

The Legislature appointed Col. Gurdon Saltonstall, Samuel Mott, Esq., and Capt. John Deshon, a committee forthwith to prepare carriages and necessary apparatus for the cannon at New London, so that they might be put in the best order for use, in case of necessity for defence.

A resolution was passed authorizing the Governor to give Brig. Gen. Spencer an order, to direct the colonels of the six regiments under his command, to order the respective captains, to forward the enlistments of men for the special service, defence, and safety of the colony, and to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice. And the four regiments commanded by Brig's. Spencer and Putnam, and Col's. Hinman and Parsons, or such part of them as the Governor should order, forthwith to be in readiness, and march to Boston, or to some place contiguous, as should be ordered.

An act was passed repealing the act constituting the action of *Book Debt*—the Legislature believing, if it existed, many accounts would be barred by the statute of limitations, in time of war, to the prejudice of officers and soldiers, who were necessarily absent from their homes.

Also for the same reasons, was an act passed, exempting debtors from imprisonment for debt, and releasing those who were in prison for debt, on execution or attachment; which act was to continue in force until the rising of the Legislature in October (then) next.

NOTE. John Patterson, Esq. of Piermont, of the province of N. Hampshire, agent of said town, preferred a petition in favor of said Piermont, stating its exposed situation to Quebec, at that alarming period, and expecting an attack by the French and Indians from Canada; that said town had voted to supply themselves with arms and ammunition, of which they were nearly destitute; and being without money in the infant state of the town, prayed the colony of Connecticut to sell them fifty pounds of powder, offering their note, with security, to be paid in May, 1776, with interest, and signed by John Patterson, Agent.

A resolution passed, directing the powder to be delivered, and to take said Patterson's note for the same, payable the 1st day of May, 1776, with interest.



mony placed at a greater distance, being fully determined never to make a voluntary sacrifice of their rights, not knowing how soon parliamentary and ministerial vengeance may be directed against them immediately, as it is now against the province of Massachusetts Bay, who are suffering in the common cause of British America, trusting in the justice of their cause, and the righteous providence of Almighty God, for the restoration of quiet and peace, or for success in the efforts for their defence, have thought it their duty to raise troops for the defence of this colony.

And whereas it is necessary that such troops, both officers and soldiers, should be made acquainted with their duty, and that articles, rules, and regulations, should be established to preserve order, good government, and discipline in the army, agreeable to the mild spirit of our constitution, and not according to the severities practised in standing armies.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same—

ARTICLE I. That all officers and soldiers not having just impediment, shall diligently frequent divine service and sermon in the places appointed for the assembling the regiment, troop or company, to which they belong, and such as wilfully absent themselves, or being present, behave indecently, or irreverently, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a regimental court-martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the president; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit 1s. to be deducted out of his wages; for his second offence, he shall not only forfeit 1s. but be confined not exceeding twenty-four hours; and for every like offence shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money so forfeited shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

ART. II. That whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any unlawful oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the first article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of 4s. lawful money.

ART. III. That any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General or Commander-in-chief, or shall speak words tending to his or their hurt or dishonor, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence by the judgment of a general court martial.

ART. IV. That any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause or join in any meeting or sedition in the regiment, troop, or company, to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop, or company of the forces of this colony, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court martial shall be ordered.

ART. V. That any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who being present at any meeting or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavors to suppress the same; or coming to the knowledge of any meeting or intended meeting does not without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officers, shall be punished by order of a general court martial, according to the nature of his offence.

ART. VI. That any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or

draw or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful command of his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

ART. VII. That any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall desert, or without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from the troop or company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a general court martial.

ART. VIII. That whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

ART. IX. That all officers of what condition soever shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another regiment, troop, or company; and either order officers to be arrested, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers to be confined and imprisoned till their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whoever shall refuse to obey such officer, though of an inferior rank, or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court martial.

ART. X. That no officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another; nor shall any officer or soldier presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel, or second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed a principal therein; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court martial.

ART. XI. That every officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command; if upon any complaint made to him, of officers or soldiers beating or otherwise ill treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot to the disquieting of the inhabitants of this continent, he the said commander who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them—shall upon due proof thereof be punished as ordered by a general court martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

ART. XII. That if any officer should think himself to be wronged by his colonel or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall upon due application made to him be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the general or commander-in-chief of the forces of this colony, in order to obtain justice; who is hereby required to examine into said complaint, and see that justice be done.

ART. XIII. That if any inferior officer or soldier shall think himself wronged by his captain, or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a regimental court martial for the doing justice to the complainant; from which regimental court martial either party

may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a general court martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the general court martial.

**ART. XIV.** That whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be convicted at a regimental court martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the ammunition, arms, or provision, or other military stores, delivered out to him to be employed in the service of this colony, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel, and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court martial.

**ART. XV.** That all non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or them by the sentence of a regimental court martial.

**ART. XVI.** That no officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp without leave from their commanding officers of the regiment, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of a regimental court martial.

**ART. XVII.** That every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat, in default of which he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the commanding officer.

**ART. XVIII.** That no officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity; or shall go from the said place of rendezvous or from his guard without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court martial.

**ART. XIX.** That whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard party or other duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a regimental court martial.

**ART. XX.** That whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

**ART. XXI.** That any person belonging to the troops of this colony, who by discharging of fire arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

**ART. XXII.** That any officer or soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court martial.

**ART. XXIII.** That no officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessaries to the camp or quarters of the army; any officer or soldier so offending, shall, upon complaint being made to the commanding officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court martial.

ART. XXIV. That whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

ART. XXV. That any person belonging to the forces raised, or that may be raised for the defence of the colony, who shall make known the *watch-word* to any person who is not entitled to receive it according to the rules and discipline of war; or shall presume to give a parole or watch-word different from what he received it, shall suffer *death*, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

ART. XXVI. That whosoever belonging to the forces raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this colony, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition; or shall knowingly harbor or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVII. That whosoever belonging to the forces already raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this colony, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVIII. That all public stores taken in the enemy's camp, or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing or provisions, shall be secured for the use of this colony.

ART. XXIX. That if any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colors in time of an engagement to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof, before a general court martial, suffer such punishment as by said court martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXX. That if any commander of any post, intrenchment or fortress, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command, to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officer, non-commissioned officers or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer *death*, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a general court martial.

ART. XXXI. That all sutlers and retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the forces already raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this colony, in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subjected to the same articles, rules, and regulations to which the officers and soldiers are or shall be subjected.

ART. XXXII. That no general court martial shall consist of a less number than *thirteen*, none of which shall be under the degree of a commissioned officer; and the president of each and every court martial whether general or regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness in order to the trial of offenders; and the members of all courts martial shall be duly sworn by the president, and the next in rank on the court martial shall administer the oath to the president.

ART. XXXIII. That the members both of general and regimental courts martial shall, when belonging to different corps, take the same rank which they hold in the army; but when courts martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions, by which they are mustered in the said corps.

**ART. XXXIV.** That all the members of a court martial are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality, and in giving of their votes are to begin with the lowest.

**ART. XXXV.** That no field officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

**ART. XXXVI.** That the commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their colonel or commanding officer, hold regimental courts martial for the enquiry into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporal punishments for small offences; and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the court martial) shall have confirmed the same.

**ART. XXXVII.** That no regimental court martial shall consist of less than five officers, except in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient, who are likewise to determine upon the sentence, by a majority of voices; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer, not being a member of the court martial.

**ART. XXXVIII.** That every officer commanding in any fort, castle, or barrack, or elsewhere, where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments, or of independent companies, may assemble courts martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were regimental; whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said commanding officer.

**ART. XXXIX.** That no person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a court martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of said court martial.

**ART. XL.** That to the end that offenders may be brought to justice whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest, if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned, till he shall be either tried by a court martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

**ART. XLI.** That no officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court martial can be conveniently assembled.

**ART. XLII.** That no officer commanding a guard, or provost marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any person committed to his charge by an officer belonging to the forces aforesaid; which officer shall at the same time deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

**ART. XLIII.** That no officer commanding a guard or provost marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing, nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a general court martial.

**ART. XLIV.** That every officer, or a provost marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in

writing to the colonel of the regiment to whom the prisoner belongs, (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said regiment, and that his office only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps,) or to the commander-in-chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a general court martial.

ART. XLV. And if any officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, he shall be cashiered for it.

ART. XLVI. That whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a general court martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

ART. XLVII. That all officers, conductors, gunners, postrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the artillery of this colony, shall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the troops.

ART. XLVIII. That for differences arising among themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the courts martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of artillery shall sit in courts martial with the officers of the other corps.

ART. XLIX. That all crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which officers and soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the articles of war, are to be taken cognizance of by a general or regimental court martial, according to the nature or degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

ART. L. That no courts martial shall order any offender to be whipped, or receive more than thirty-nine stripes, for one offence.

ART. LI. That the field officers of each and every regiment, are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such regiment, to receive all such fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such regiment; such persons shall account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

ART. LII. That all members sitting in courts martial shall be sworn by the president of said courts, which president shall himself be sworn by the officer in said court next in rank. The oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz: You, A. B. swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine, the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating the forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of the colony of Connecticut—so help you God.

ART. LIII. That all persons called to give evidence in any case before a court martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such court martial. The oath to be administered in the form following, viz: You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing,

shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—so help you God.

A resolution passed directing all officers who assisted in assembling or furnishing ammunition to such of the colony in the (then) late alarms, who marched east or west, to deliver to the selectmen of their respective towns, their accounts, and the names of those who marched in relief of those in distress, and the time detained until their return. The selectmen were ordered to collect a particular account of expenses, for provisions, &c., and the names of those who supplied, to be laid before the committee of pay table for settlement.\*

It was also resolved, that the committee of the pay table should give orders on the treasurer for the payment of all money actually expended, or for obligations given therefor, in obtaining the possession of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, by said accounts being liquidated and approved by the committee. And the committee were directed to receive the accounts of the costs and expenses for men and provision in taking and securing said fortresses, by any inhabitants of this colony, or any other colony, if employed by the colony of Connecticut, and digest and put in proper form all such accounts, and lay the same before the Assembly.

It was resolved, that each non-commissioned officer and soldier, of any military company in the colony, should be paid out of the colony treasury, six pence for each half day he had performed military duty, and one shilling for each day he had performed regimental duty, in obedience to a law of the colony passed the October preceding.

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\* At this time there was convincing proof that a design was formed by the British ministry, of making an invasion from Canada, i. e. from Quebec upon the northern colonies, to take the lives and liberties of the colonists. Some steps had actually been taken to carry their designs into execution. Some of the citizens in the vicinity of Ticonderoga, who were immediately exposed to incursions, being impelled by a just regard for their defence and self preservation, had taken possession of that post, and also of Crown Point, where was then lodged a quantity of cannon and military stores, which were exposed to be taken by the enemy, as well as the few officers and soldiers who were stationed there. And as the colony of Connecticut had of right no command of said posts exclusively, said posts being in possession of people of different colonies, it was considered impracticable for the officers and soldiers of this colony to return either to Ticonderoga, or Crown Point at that time; and it therefore became necessary that such officers and soldiers and their families, for the time being, should be provided for by the colony.

It was therefore resolved, that Col. Erastus Wolcott, Capt. Samuel Wadsworth, Capt. Ezekiel Williams, Epaphras Bull, Henry Allyn, Col. Fisher Gay, Col. Matthew Talcott, Col. James Wadsworth, Capt. Jonathan Welles, Ebenezer White, and Col. Jonathan Humphrey, should be a committee, or any three of them, at the expense of the colony, to take care of and provide for the officers and soldiers and their families, in procuring labor for the soldiers until the continental Congress, or the Assembly, should take farther order concerning them. Directing the commander-in-chief to make proper returns under his hand to said committee, of such corps as were under his command.



It was resolved, that Jabez Hamlin, Matthew Talcott, and Titus Hooper, Esq's., be a committee to provide stores of lead, as they should judge necessary for the use of the colony, or to take the lead ore raised out of the mine at Middletown, and refined and fitted for the use of the colony; with power to receive out of the colony treasury any sums of money that should be necessary to procure said lead, or purchase said lead ore and smelt and refine it, not exceeding the sum of £400 — Provided that the owners of said mine, should be allowed for any loss or damage they might sustain by reason of the premises,

It was resolved, that the commander-in-chief of the forces raised in the colony, at their respective destinations, were empowered to procure armors to repair all fire arms damaged in service.

And the committee of pay table were directed to repair the arms of the colony in the hands of the treasurer, and deliver them to the inhabitants enlisted, to have them appraised, and take a receipt for them.

Samuel Mott, Esq., was appointed an engineer to repair forthwith to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, to act in that capacity, and to take rank as a lieutenant colonel among the troops raised for the defence of the colony of Connecticut.

The Legislature appointed the Hon. Matthew Griswold, Hon. Eliphalet Dyer, J. Huntington, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, N. Wales, Jr., J. Elderkin, Joshua West, and Benjamin Huntington, Esq's., to assist the Governor when the Assembly was not in session, to direct the marches and stations of the soldiers enlisted for the defence of the colony, or any part of them, as they should judge proper, and supply with every matter and thing that should be needful for the defence of the colony.\*

That the commissions ordered by the special Assembly in April, be dated May 1st, 1775.

That the warrants for the staff be dated 20th day of May, 1775, viz.: chaplain, surgeon, and surgeon's mate.

The sum of £4 per month was granted to Major General Wooster, to assist him to provide a proper secretary for the necessary service of his department.

Also the sum of £4 per month to Brigadier Generals Spencer and Putnam, to provide secretaries for their respective departments.

Jonathan Fitch, Esq., was appointed commissary, in the room of Thomas Howel, resigned.

It was resolved, that the commissaries should be allowed one and a half per cent. commission on all supplies purchased and paid for by them, by order of the Assembly.

The Treasurer of the colony was ordered to pay Captain Edward Mott, the sum of £20, and said Mott to account to the Assembly.

Jabez Hamlin and Jesse Root, Esq's. were added to the committee to sign the bills of credit in the colony, ordered by the Assembly on the 26th day of April, 1775.

It was resolved, that 500 pounds of powder should be forthwith borrowed by the committee of pay table from the town stocks of the adjacent towns, and to

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\* This was the first Committee of Safety appointed by Connecticut, to aid the Governor in his deliberations and acts during the recess of the General Assembly.



be transported by Col. James Easton, with the utmost expedition, to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and to be there used for the immediate defence of those posts, until the resolves of the Continental Congress should be carried into execution; directing the committee of pay table to draw on the colony treasurer in favor of Col. Easton for the sum of £200, to be expended in defraying the expenses of transporting said powder, and other necessary purposes, for the immediate support of said fortresses.

The pay of an adjutant was fixed at £6 per month; the pay of the 1st lieutenant of the colonel's companies in each regiment fixed at £6 per month.

£10 was ordered paid to Capt. Eleazer Oswald.

Fees of six shillings per day was allowed for the committee of the pay table for each attending on the service, and so in proportion for the time served.

David Johnson, Jr., was appointed 2d lieutenant, 2d company, 4th regiment, in the room of David Bissell, superseded.

Capt. John Chester enlisted five men more than his quota, the Assembly gave him liberty to retain them in his company.

Col. Charles Burrall received an order of £12:9:11 for repairing arms of the colony.

Jabez Thomson, Ichabod Lewis, Thomas Belding, John Mead, Henry Champion, Comfort Sage, and Nathan Denison, were appointed lieutenant colonels of militia.

Zebulon Butler, Matthew Talcott, Samuel Chapman, William Williams, and Gold S. Silliman, were also appointed colonels of the militia.

William Douglass, John Chester, Stephen St. John, Dyer Throop, John Penfield, William Judd, and Oliver Smith, were also appointed majors in the militia of the colony.

Abraham Blakely, of New Haven, captain of a company, was cashiered, and removed from office, for manifesting dissatisfaction with the government.

Andrew Philip Skeen, of Skeensborough, in the State of New York, on the 9th of May, 1775, was taken at home, with his aunt, two sisters, and a man by the name of Beach, and brought to this colony. On his application to the Assembly to return with his family, and be protected in their return to his farm; or that the Legislature would send some suitable person to take care of his farm in Skeensborough. The Assembly granted liberty to the family of said Skeen to return home, or to Quebec, under the direction of O. Wolcott, Elisha Sheldon, of Salisbury, and John Bigelow, of Hartford. And said Skeen had liberty granted under the direction of said committee, to appoint and send a suitable man to take charge of his farm and business. And the commander from this colony at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, were directed to see that Major Skeen's estate should receive no unnecessary damage from the troops under their charge.

Public affairs were such, that public attention was called from private matters to things of greater importance.

Therefore it was resolved, that all private business of a civil nature, and disputable, should be referred over to the October session of the Assembly.

The Assembly adjourned, subject to the call of the Governor, and in his absence, the Deputy Governor.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

## SPECIAL SESSION.

The General Assembly, convened by special order of the Governor,  
on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1775.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Only eight of the Council present; and Samuel Huntington, added to the Assistants.

An act in addition to an act passed 26th day of April, 1775, to raise troops, it was enacted, that in addition to, and reinforcement of, the inhabitants in and by said act directed to be assembled, &c., to raise a further body of 1,400 men, exclusive of commissioned officers, who were forthwith enlisted, equipped, accoutred, and assembled for the special defence of the colony, to serve during the pleasure of the Assembly, not exceeding five months, to be led and conducted as the Assembly should order; to be formed into two regiments, of ten companies each, and each company to consist of seventy non-commissioned officers and privates, (besides commissioned officers) with the same number of commission and staff officers as in the regiment then raised and assembled for defence by the act aforesaid. And that the said troops, both officers and soldiers, should receive the same bounty and pay, and be allowed for arms, blankets, knapsacks, accoutrements, and provisions; be furnished with the same quantity of ammunition, and in every respect be under the same regulations as was provided for troops assembled.

In pursuance of the above act, the following appointments were made, and in the form following, viz.: This Assembly do appoint the persons hereafter named to the respective offices hereinafter mentioned, to take the command of the inhabitants to be enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of this colony, in addition to the six regiments heretofore raised for the same purpose, to lead and conduct them as the General Assembly shall order; and his Honor the Governor is desired, and is hereby authorized and empowered to give commissions according to the form provided and ordered for each officer, according to his office and rank, and warrants to such as are appointed in the staff, viz.:

### SEVENTH REGIMENT.

This Assembly do appoint Charles Webb, Esq., colonel of the 7th regiment, and captain of the 1st company.

1st company—Ebenezer Hill, captain and lieutenant; Stephen Betts, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Sylvanus Mead, ensign.

Street Hall, lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—William Hull, 1st lieutenant; Stephen Potter, 2d lieutenant; Titus Moss, ensign.

Jonathan Lattimer, Jr., Esq., major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Nathan Hale, 1st lieutenant; John Belcher, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Hilliard, ensign.

4th company—Joseph Hoit, captain; Joseph Allen Wright, 1st lieutenant; Gamaliel Northrop, Jr., 2d lieutenant; John Odell, ensign.

5th company—Nathaniel Tuttle, captain; John Watkins, 1st lieutenant; Lemuel Gibbs, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Hurlbut, ensign.

6th company—Edward Shipman, captain; Aaron Stevens, 1st lieutenant; Lemuel Nichols, 2d lieutenant; John Shumway, ensign.

7th company—Isaac Bostwick, captain; Jesse Kimball, 1st lieutenant; Peter Mills, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Brinsmade, ensign.

8th company—William Gaylord Hubbel, captain; John Trowbridge, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Jesse Cook, 2d lieutenant; David Lilly, ensign.

9th company—Peter Perrit, Jr., captain; John Yates, 1st lieutenant; Henry Firman, 2d lieutenant; Charles Pond, ensign.

10th company—Eli Leavenworth, captain; William Rossiter, 1st lieutenant; Peter Johnson, 2d lieutenant; Robert Lewis, ensign.

Rev. Samuel Bird, chaplain.

Francis Forgue, surgeon.

Ebenezer Beardslee and Isaac Swift, surgeon's mates.

#### EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Jedediah Huntington, Esq., colonel of the 8th regiment, and captain of the 1st company.

1st company—Asa Kingsbury, captain and lieutenant; Jonathan Brewster, 2d lieutenant; Phineas Lyman Tracy, ensign.

John Douglass, Esq., lieutenant colonel, and captain of 2d company.

2d company—Elizur Hubbard, 1st lieutenant; Moses Campbell, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Bingham, ensign.

Joel Clark, Esq., major, and captain of 3d company.

3d company—Abiel Pease, 1st lieutenant; Epaphras Andrus, 2d lieutenant; Abraham Wright, ensign.

4th company—Elihu Humphrey, captain; Ebenezer Fitch, 1st lieutenant; Timothy Cossett, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Filly, ensign.

5th company—Charles Ellsworth, Jr., captain; Moses Hall, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Bancroft, 2d lieutenant; Barzillai Markham, ensign.

6th company—Abijah Rowley, captain; Zebadiah Farnum, 1st lieutenant; Epaphras Bull, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Tinker, ensign.

7th company—Daniel Lyon, captain; Elijah Sharp, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Burgiss, 2d lieutenant; John Sumner, ensign.

8th company—Joseph Jewet, captain; Jabez Fitch, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Gove, 2d lieutenant; Elisha Leffingwell, ensign.

9th company—Abraham Tyler, Jr., captain; Timothy Percival, 1st lieutenant; Solomon Orcutt, 2d lieutenant; Aaron Hale, ensign.

10th company—John Ripley, captain; Thomas Tyrrell, 1st lieutenant; Joel Chamberlin, 2d lieutenant; John Vaughan, ensign.

Rev. John Ellis, chaplain.

Philip Turner, surgeon.

Albigens Waldo and Silas Holmes, surgeon's mates.

The commissions and warrants for the officers in the troops now to be raised, be made similar to those for officers already in the service, and to bear date 6th of July, 1775. If any declinature of officers should occur, the Governor was to fill such vacancies.

It was resolved, that there should be provided 48 marques, or officer's tents ; 233 tents for soldiers ; 281 iron pots, to contain ten quarts each, or tin kettles ; 14 brass kettles, to contain from eight to twelve gallons each, for the use of each regiment ; 600 wooden bowls ; 3 frying-pans for the use of each company ; 1400 quart canns ; 20 drums ; 40 fifes, for the use of said troops ; 2 standards—for the seventh regiment, a blue one—for the eighth regiment, an orange ; a medicine chest and apparatus, of the value of £30, to be under the direction of the surgeons ; and if any apparatus or medicine should be left, it was to be returned to the colony ; 15 books in quarto, consisting of one quire of paper each, covered with cartridge paper ; half a ream of writing paper ; 3 reams of cartridge paper ; 1 cart or wagon for each company. The provisions, arms, and ammunition, to be provided and distributed in the same manner and proportion as was allowed to troops raised in April, 1775.

Also, an act was passed for supplying the troops to be raised as aforesaid, with the necessary fire arms, on the same terms, and with like arms, &c. as were ordered to be furnished to the six regiments previously raised, with the same duties devolving upon selectmen of towns, committee of pay table, captains, &c.

The committee appointed in May, 1775, to procure fire arms for the use of the colony, were again authorized to contract for such number of arms, of like construction of those ordered in May aforesaid, as are therein directed, and to draw on the Treasurer for the payment of the same.

Also, it was resolved, that the Governor and Council, (appointed to assist him in the recess of the Assembly,) should be authorized and empowered to direct the marches and stations of the troops then to be raised for the defence of the colony, either in whole or parts of said troops, as they should judge necessary for the public service, and to see they were furnished in every respect, and to every purpose, that should be needful to render the defence effectual.

It was resolved, that Jabez Hamlin, Matthew Talcott, and Titus Hostner, Esq's., a committee appointed in May (then) last, to work the lead mines in Middletown, for the use of the colony, be ordered to proceed to work the same, and to receive out of the colony treasury such sums of money as should be sufficient to carry the same into execution, and render their account to said Assembly. And the committee of pay table were directed to draw on the Treasurer for such sums as should be necessary for said purpose.

It was resolved, that two vessels, of a suitable burden, should be immediately fitted, and armed with a proper number of cannon, swivel guns, and small arms, and furnished with necessary warlike stores, and well officered and manned, for the defence of the sea coast in the colony, under the care of the Governor, and the council appointed to assist him in the recess of the Assembly, who were directed to procure and furnish the same.

It was resolved, that the Governor should draw from the colony treasury, and deliver to Walter Livingston, Esq. immediately, the sum of £15,000 in bills of credit, at the request of Gen. Philip Schuyler ; and that the Governor and Council should furnish Gen. Schuyler with such quantity of ammunition as they should judge proper and necessary.

It was resolved, that the Governor should make a kind and friendly answer to the speech sent to this colony by the Oneida Indians, and procure a belt of wampum to be sent them; and that the sum of £12 for the expense of transmitting the same should be paid out of the treasury; and that the Governor should direct Col. Hinman to assure the Indians of the peaceable disposition of the people of the colony towards them.

Hon. Jabez Hamlin was directed to collect the salt petre and sulphur that could be found in the several towns in the colony, and send it, with all despatch, to the powder mills in Dutchess county, to be made into powder; and apply to the pay table for money necessary for the service, and account to that office for the expenditure thereof.

The Governor was authorized to grant permits for the exportation of live cattle and provisions, by water, in such cases and to such ports as he should judge proper for the public service.

A sum of money being found necessary for the payment of incidental charges of government, the Assembly ordered to be forthwith printed and issued £50,000 in bills of credit on the colony, equal to lawful money, of like denominations and tenor of the last emissions, without interest, and payable at or before the last day of December, 1779, and dated July 1st, 1775. J. Hamlin, William Pitkin, Geo. Wylls, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, Thomas Seymour, and Jesse Root, Esq's., or any three of them, were a committee to take care of the printing, &c., of said bills of credit. And a sinking fund or tax of seven pence on the pound was levied on all polls and rateable estate in the colony, to be paid into the treasury on the last day of December, 1779, to be payable in bills of credit of this emission, or lawful money.

Upon the memorial of Capt. Wm. Delaplace, Brig. Maj. Andrew P. Skeen, and Ensign Joseph Moland, (prisoners of war) praying that they might be kept together and not separated, as per memorial on file, July 6, 1775; it was resolved, that they should not at that time be separated, but that they should be removed from Hartford to some other town, as should be directed by a committee before appointed. It was also resolved, that on the arrival of Maj. Skeen the elder, (who had been ordered to Hartford by the Continental Congress) that said committee should provide him suitable lodgings in some remote part of the town of Hartford; and if the committee should see fit, might permit Major Skeen the younger, to reside with (his father) Major Skeen the elder.\*

Josiah Hart was appointed surgeon's mate in Col. Parsons' regiment.

Nathan Baily, of New London, presented his account for bayonets furnished Col. S. H. Parsons' regiment in June, 1775, then encamped at New London, of £50:8:2. The committee of pay table were directed to pay the same.

The provincial Congress of Massachusetts Bay, represented to the General Assembly of Connecticut, that the town of Machias, and other towns and places in the eastern parts of the province, were then, or soon might be reduced to necessitous circumstances for want of provisions; and that application had been made to the Assembly by said Congress, requesting that the inhabitants of said eastern towns might be permitted to purchase provisions in the colony of Connecticut, and transport them by water out of the colony.

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\* They were removed to Mrs. Hooker's, in West Hartford.

It was therefore resolved, that if application should be made for said purposes, by any of the inhabitants of said eastern towns to the Governor, and proof made to his satisfaction that they were, or were likely to be in distress for want of necessary provisions—in such case to grant license to purchase and transport from the colony by land or water, to such towns.

Daniel Strong, of Lebanon, represented that in the engagement near Charlestown, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, he lost a wagon in the service of the army, and forty shillings in cash, and £3 worth of clothing, and two draft chains; for which loss he was allowed £16 lawful money out of the public treasury.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### OCTOBER SESSION.

Session of the Governor and Company of the English colony of Connecticut, at New Haven, October 2d, A. D. 1775.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

(The Assistants were the same as last session, only eight present.)

By a resolve of said Assembly, an embargo was forthwith laid upon the exportation out of the colony, by water, of the following articles, viz.: wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork, beef, live cattle, peas and beans, butter, cheese, bread, flour, and every kind of meal, except to supply necessary stores for vessels bound to sea. And the Governor was desired to issue a proclamation laying such embargo, to be continued until June, 1776. Reserving to the Governor the privilege of giving permits, for exportation in case of public service, as he should judge necessary and expedient. Also provided that the Governor and Council should be empowered to discontinue the embargo, in whole or part, at any time they should judge expedient.

The Legislature having been informed that disputes had arisen amongst the troops (then) lately raised in this colony, who had been sent into the colony of New York; and such troops as were employed against the ministerial forces in Canada; and fearing the result of such disputes, that they might be attended with unhappy and disastrous consequences:—Therefore resolved, that all the troops which had been (then) lately raised by this colony and sent to the colony of New York, and such as were then employed against the ministerial troops in Canada, should be subject to the rules, orders, regulations, and discipline of the Congress of the twelve United Colonies during the time of their enlistment.

Hon. Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Titus Hosmer, and William Williams were appointed delegates to represent the colony of Connecticut at the General Congress of the United Colonies in America for the

year (then) ensuing, and until others should be chosen. And should either Roger Sherman, Wolcott, or Huntington, fail to attend said Congress, by sickness or otherwise; then Titus Hooper or William Williams were appointed to supply the place or vacancy—so that three, and three only should attend the Congress, and act upon all measures necessary to be pursued for the defence, security, and preservation of the rights and liberties of the United Colonies and their common safety; and of their proceedings, to transmit authentic copies to the General Assembly of this colony—to take their seats by the 1st day of January, 1776, or as soon as Congress should convene; and those who were then attending said Congress should keep their seats until the new ones should arrive at said Congress.

The committee appointed in May, 1775, to procure 3,000 stands of arms for the use of the colony, &c., reported, that they procured many of the arms to be made in the colony, and which was then in the possession of the committee, but had not been able to procure the 3,000 arms ordered by the act within the time limited. And the Assembly directed the committee to purchase and receive all the stands of arms which should be completed in the colony under said act, and delivered any time before the 1st day of May, 1776, and the bounty paid the same, as if the arms had been finished by the 20th day of October, 1775.

It was enacted, that the chief officer of every troop should cause the arms and ammunition of all under his command, and the chief officer of every company of foot should cause the arms, &c., of all under his command, and also of all others dwelling within the limits of his company, who were by law obliged to keep arms, to be reviewed on the first Monday of May and October, annually; and were required to bring their arms, &c., at a certain place and time, by such officer, or be fined for a deficiency in either arms or ammunition.

It was also enacted, that every trooper enlisted into any troop of horse in the colony, should within three months from the 1st day of November, 1775, furnish and provide himself with a suitable horse and furniture, a carbine, and every article of fire arms and accoutrements directed by law, and constantly have them in readiness for service. And such as should afterwards enlist, should within three months equip himself, on penalty of being dismissed by his captain—and doing duty in a company of foot. And if the captain should neglect his duty, to be fined ten shillings.

The polls of officers and soldiers that were in the service having been omitted by the listers, were ordered to be entered in said lists; and the forty shillings school money on every £1,000 was ordered to be paid the same as if said polls had been originally added.

It was resolved, that the Treasurer of the colony should receive into the treasury all sums of money or bills (then) lately emitted by order of the Continental Congress, to be sent to the colony. There then being a large sum in the hands of William Williams, Esq.; he was ordered to deliver said bills to the Treasurer and take his receipt, and lodge said receipt with the Secretary of the colony, and to take like receipt for all such bills afterwards paid, and deposite said receipts as aforesaid.

The Legislature appointed John Canfield, Esq., to receive out of the colony treasury £150, to be applied to the relief of sick soldiers at Ticonderoga, and in

that vicinity. And said Canfield was directed to apply to Colonel William Williams for so many continental bills as to amount to the sum of £150.

It was also resolved, that John Canfield, Esq., should receive out of the colony treasury £150, and forthwith repair to Ticonderoga, and apply to the proper officers of the United Colonies. That they should afford all proper relief to all sick soldiers in that quarter, who had enlisted, or on the road home, on the account of the United Colonies—which if refused on the account of said colonies, then said Canfield was directed, to relieve the soldiers enlisted in this colony, at the expense of the colony of Connecticut, and have his account adjusted by the committee of pay table.

It was enacted, that a company of seventy men should be enlisted and stationed at New London, from the 20th day of October, 1775, until the 1st day of December; that a captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign should command them; the works begun on the old fort at New London should be finished, and that the men so to be enlisted be employed in perfecting the same; and that the cannon at New London be mounted on said fort; and the fort supplied with one ton of gun powder out of the colony stores; that a platform be erected on the fort, and that the colony Treasurer by orders of the committee of pay table, should pay to the captain of said company the sum of £100, to be laid out in purchasing materials for said platform, and other expenses on said works.

That a company of thirty men, should be enlisted, and stationed at New Haven, under the command of a lieutenant, from the 20th of October, until the 1st day of December, 1775, for the defence thereof.

That fifteen men should be enlisted, and stationed at Lyme, under the command of a lieutenant, from the 20th of October, till the 1st day of December aforesaid.

That a company of forty men should be enlisted, and stationed at Stonington, under a captain for the same period, for the defence thereof.

That said officers and soldiers should receive the same monthly wages with officers and soldiers before raised for the defence of the colony. Also said officers and soldiers were allowed for said term, five shillings and three pence per week for their billeting; and that the officers before appointed by the Governor and Council of Safety should continue their command of said respective bodies of men.

It was resolved, that the committee of pay table, as soon as might be, should prepare and state an account of all the expense and disbursements the colony had been at, in raising, equipping, &c., troops raised in the colony under acts of said Assembly for the defence of the invaded rights of America; and all other expense incurred in defence of the United Colonies, and send to the Governor a copy of said accounts, who was directed to transmit said copy to the Continental Congress, and request payment of the balance due the colony.

The committee of pay table were directed to receive, adjust, and allow what should be reasonable, of the accounts of physicians, surgeons, nurses, and others who had attended or should attend on, or support the sick troops raised by the colony, either sick in the service, at or before their march to or from their encampment, and not under the advantage of being taken care of, or the sick in the army.

The news carrier from Woodstock to Hartford, through Lebanon, was continued in said service at the public expense.



The Governor and Committee of Safety ordered men, to be raised, and stationed at New Haven, New London, Lyme, and Stonington, from the 20th day of September to the 20th day of October, 1775. A resolution passed, that the committee of pay table should receive and adjust their accounts, and draw orders on the Treasurer for the same, and pay it to the chief officer of each company.

Col. Erastus Wolcott, Samuel Wadsworth, Ezekiel Williams, Epaphras Ball, Henry Allyn, Col. Fisher Gay, Col. M. Talcott, Col. James Wadsworth, Jonathan Weller, Ebenezer White, and Col. J. Humphrey, had been appointed a committee to provide for a number of officers and soldiers with their families, &c., who were then prisoners of war in the town of Hartford; and the Assembly having discovered that no provision had been made for their confinement and support; it was resolved, that said committee be authorized to take care of and provide for said officers, &c., at public expense as before directed.

The Governor was desired to write to the Continental Congress and state all matters relating to the prisoners of war, who were then, or thereafter should be brought into the colony; and request Congress to direct in what manner the officers and soldiers who were prisoners as aforesaid, should be provided for, and how the expense incurred should be defrayed. Also that he should transmit a copy of Gen. Washington's letter to the committee of inspection at Hartford, respecting Maj. French and his companions, (prisoners of war); also said French's request contained in his billet to Mr. Payne, and Capt. Wm. Delaplace's memorial to the Legislature.

The accounts of John Bolles, Jr., and John Bolles, 3d, of New London, for articles supplied officers and soldiers, were referred to the committee of pay table for settlement, &c.

Joseph Hopkins, Esq., and Capt. Samuel Forbes, were appointed a committee to visit the lead mines in New Canaan, and examine the quality of the ore, the state of the mines, &c., and report to the next Legislature.

The Legislature having been informed that Benjamin Stiles, of Woodbury, had publicly and contemptuously spoken many things against the three delegates in Congress, from this colony, as to their ability, integrity, and uprightness, and against the measures that had been adopted on the continent, for the relief and security of the rights and privileges of our inhabitants; by which said Stiles had shewn his inimical temper and unfriendly disposition to the measures pursued for a union of defence in the American cause. It was therefore resolved, to cite said Stiles to appear before said Assembly, to answer to said charges against him; and the Secretary of State was ordered to cite said Stiles to appear at the next session of said Assembly, and all witnesses who could testify in said cause.

Jonathan Weaver, Jr., of Stonington, who was a music man in the company of Capt. Oliver Smith, and was dangerously wounded at Stonington Long Point, was allowed £12:4:4 by the Assembly.

Daniel Gray, of Stamford, had liberty of the Assembly to transport a sloop load of rye and corn to Machias and Falmouth, by giving a bond of £500 for its faithful transport to those places.

Also, Leonard Dupan, of Cape Francaia, had liberty to load his schooner with lumber, and export it to the West Indies.

Also, Stephen Thorp, of Fairfield, had liberty to transport a sloop load of rye, corn, and flour to Falmouth, Machias, or Sheepscoot, by giving a bond of £500, &c.

Increase Bradley and Peter Whitney, of Fairfield, also had liberty to ship a sloop load of rye and corn to Machias, Falmouth and Sheepscoot.

It was resolved, that the situation of public affairs was such that the Assembly would not attend to any private matters before them.

It was resolved, that as William Williams and Nathaniel Wales had received a sum in continental currency of the Continental Treasurer, at Philadelphia, for the use of the colony, that they should pay of said money to Samuel Bishop and Fisher Gay, Esq's., the sum of \$1,678, equal to £503:8 lawful money of said currency, to be by them used to discharge the debenture of said Assembly, for the session—when said Assembly, on the 25th day of October, was adjourned without day.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### SPECIAL SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, holden at New Haven, by special order of the Governor, on the 14th day of December, A. D. 1775.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Eight Assistants only in attendance.

An act for raising and equipping a body of minute men, to be held in readiness for defence of the colony.

It was enacted, that one-fourth part of the militia of the colony should be forthwith selected by voluntary enlistment, with as many other able bodied men, not included in any militia roll, as should be inclined to enlist, to stand in readiness as minute men for the defence of this and the United Colonies. And that the colonel or chief officers of the respective regiments of the militia in the colony should forthwith give orders to the captains, or chief officers of the several military companies, that they should call their respective companies together, and enlist the fourth part of the same, with such other able bodied men not in any roll, as should offer to enlist. And the captains or chief officers of said companies should immediately execute said orders, and make return to the colonels or chief officers of the respective regiments; when the field officers of each regiment of militia were ordered to form said men into distinct companies, consisting of about sixty-eight rank and file; with liberty given to said companies to choose their officers, viz.: one captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign, four sergeants, one clerk, one drummer, one fifer, and four corporals.

The field officers to lead said company to the choice of their commissioned officers, and make returns of such choice, with a muster roll of their company, to the Governor, who, on the receipt of said choice, was authorized to grant those elected, their commissions.

It was further enacted, that the Governor and his committee (to assist him in the recess of the Assembly) were authorized to form said companies into regiments, and to appoint such of the field officers of the regiments of militia, for the time being, to the command of the new formed regiments.

Also, that such officers and soldiers should equip themselves with arms and ammunition, according to law, with good bayonets and knapsacks, for which each should be paid eight shillings at the colony treasury. The captain of each company to procure a drum and fife for his company, and be paid therefor. The companies to meet one day in each fortnight, (the three summer months excepted) either in whole or in such divisions not exceeding four in number, as the officers should direct, for military exercise, and to be subject to the same penalties for absence or misbehaviour as the militia were by law; and said officers and soldiers were to be paid out of the public treasury for each half day they should meet and exercise. That each officer should be paid, viz.: captain, three shillings; lieutenant, two shillings; ensign, one shilling and six pence; sargeant, one shilling and six pence; clerk, one shilling and three pence; corporals, fifiers, drummers, and private soldiers, each one shilling.

That the officers and soldiers of the regiments and companies so raised, should hold themselves in constant readiness to march on the shortest notice, for the defence of this or [any other of the united colonies, by order of the Captain General of the colony, or other of their superior officers, and when so called out to receive like wages and billeting allowance, and be subject to the same laws as the enlisted soldiers were subject. Said companies so raised, to be exempted from military duty in any other military company or service; to be held in said service during the pleasure of said Assembly, not exceeding twelve months after the first day of January, 1776;—then to be disbanded and returned into the militia companies. No officer or soldier to receive any of his wages until he should be entirely equipped and armed. It was provided that the twenty-fourth regiment of militia should come within the provisions of said act.

An act passed to encourage the manufacture of salt-petre and gun powder.—It was enacted that a bounty of £10 should be paid on every 100 lb. of salt-petre or nitre made in the colony between the 1st day of June, 1776, and 1st of January, 1777, and in proportion for a greater or less quantity. It was provided that if any manufacturer of salt-petre refused to give information as to the materials out of which salt-petre was made, or of the process of manufacturing it, that such person should not be entitled to such bounty. Inspectors of salt-petre were appointed, who were to inspect all such salt-petre on which a bounty was claimed; and said inspectors were empowered to administer an oath to witnesses, proving that the article was manufactured in the colony, out of materials collected therein, by him or on his or their account, and that he has had no other certificate for the same. That such certificate should be recognized by the committee of pay table and paid. That each town in the colony that sent representatives to the General Assembly, where no works for making salt-petre had been erected, were enjoined, as soon as might be, to erect one set of such works, and carry on the manufacture of nitre and salt-petre. And the select-

men of such towns were directed, at the expense of such towns, to erect and carry on one establishment for this purpose in each town. That no salt-petre or powder made in the colony should be exported out of it, by land or sea, without license of said Assembly, or the Governor and his committee, under a penalty of £20 for every 100 lb. It was farther enacted, that a bounty or premium of £30 should be paid out of the treasury to the person who should erect the first powder mill in the colony, and manufacture five hundred pounds of good merchantable gun-powder. And that a premium of £30 should be paid out of the treasury to the person who should erect the second powder mill in the colony, and make five hundred pounds of good and merchantable gun-powder. The inspectors were directed to receive all such salt-petre as should pass inspection, for the colony use, and give his receipt therefor, to be paid for out of the treasury at such price as the General Assembly should fix. It was enacted that no powder mill should be erected in the colony without license from and given by the General Assembly, on penalty of £30.

An act for restraining and punishing persons inimical to the liberties of this and other of the united colonies, &c. It was enacted, that if any person within the colony should directly or indirectly supply the ministerial army or navy with provisions, military or naval stores, or should give any intelligence to the officers, soldiers, or mariners belonging to said army or navy, or should enlist or procure others to enlist into the service of said army or navy, or should take up arms against this or any of the united colonies, or should undertake to pilot any of the vessels belonging to their navy, or should in any other way aid or assist them, and be thereof duly convicted before the Superior Court, should forfeit all his estate, which should be seized by order of said Court for the use of the colony ;—and should be further punished by imprisonment in any gaol in the colony, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding three years. It was also enacted, that if any person, by writing or speaking, or by any overt act, should libel or defame any resolves of the Congress of the united colonies, or the acts or proceedings of the General Assembly of the colony, that were made or should be made for the defence or security of the rights and privileges of the same, and be duly convicted before the Superior Court, should be disarmed, allowed to keep no arms, and made incapable to hold or serve in any office, civil or military, and be further punished, either by fine, imprisonment, or disfranchisement, and find surety of the peace, as the court should order, and pay the cost of prosecution.

It was further enacted, that on complaint being made to the civil authority, selectmen, and committee of inspection of the several towns in the colony, against any person residing in such town, or an adjoining town in the same county, where there was not a committee of inspection, that they were inimical to the liberties of the colony, and the other united colonies in America, it should be the duty of the civil authority, selectmen, and committee to cause every such person to appear before them to be examined ; and if on examination they should not be able to satisfy said authority, selectmen, and committee, or the major part of them, that they were not inimical to this or the other united American colonies ; then such person or persons should be by order of said authority, selectmen, and committee, or by a majority of them, disarmed, until they should satisfy a majority of them that they were friendly to this and the other colonies.

And for the more effectually carrying said act into effect, it was further enacted, that when any person should be duly convicted, and ordered to be disarmed, that the Superior Court, or civil authority, selectmen, and committee, (as the case might be,) were empowered to issue a warrant, signed by the Clerk of the Superior Court, or by one at least of said civil authority, directed to the sheriffs, ordering such officer forthwith to disarm him or them ; and if such person should refuse to give up his arms, then the officer by and with the advice of one of said authority, or two justices, was authorized to raise the militia of the county, or any part of them, to aid in executing the warrant ; and if said officers and soldiers should refuse to obey said sheriff, that they should be subject to the same penalty as in other cases of refusing to obey the sheriff in his office ; and it was made the duty of all informing officers to make presentment of all breaches of said law.

It also enacted, that on information being made to any County Court in the colony, by the selectmen of any town, that there were real estates in such town owned by any person who had since the making of the act aforesaid put, or should continue to hold or screen themselves under the protection of the ministerial army or navy, or should have aided in carrying into execution, the ministerial measures against the colonies ; that in such case, that the County Court within the county where such land might lie, were authorized to issue a warrant, and attach the estate. And if on enquiry said court should find the facts true, then said courts were directed to place such property in the care of some proper person, to improve said estate for the use of the colony, and account for the rents to the colony.

The Treasurer of the colony by law was empowered to make sale of all escheats, and of all lands that then were or should be recovered of any person, to the public Treasury, to be sold only at public vendue, and by appraisement made by three judicious freeholders under oath, or private sale, as the Treasurer should judge would conduce most to the benefit of the colony, and execute deeds accordingly.

In May, 1769, the military exercise called the *Norfolk Militia Exercise*, was ordered to be the military exercise in this colony. And the Legislature finding that the continental army had adopted the *Manual Exercise*, so called, directed by His Majesty, in 1764, which was deemed preferable for actual service ; therefore it was resolved, that in future the military exercise called the *Manual Exercise*, ordered by His Majesty, in 1764, shall be observed and practised by the militia in this colony ; and that the colonel and chief commanding officer of the regiment give orders to the commanding officers of each company under their command accordingly.

A law was also enacted for the punishment of deserters. That if any soldier or marine who had been regularly enlisted in the service of the colony, who should depart without license of his commander, and desert the service, or deserting from another colony into this, that it should be the duty of all persons, and particularly constables and grand jurors immediately to give notice thereof to the next assistant or justice, who were required to issue warrants, and forthwith apprehend them and commit them to gaol, &c.

And if any person should harbor a deserter, knowing him to be such, he was made liable to pay to the Treasurer of the colony a sum not exceeding £15, or be imprisoned not exceeding two months.

The Legislature being desirous to encourage the future service of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, and to favor those with some token of approbation who had conducted meritoriously, and served out faithfully their stipulated time of service—passed an act, that those non-commissioned officers and soldiers who had faithfully discharged their duties during the campaign then past, should be exempted from paying any taxes arising on their polls on the list of 1775; and that those who had or should enlist into the continental army for the (then) ensuing campaign, should also be exempted from the poll tax on the list of 1776; and also that their bodies should be exempt from arrests for debts during their term of service.

A law was passed that the commander-in-chief of the army, or any officer in the service of the united colonies, commanding any detachment or out post, should be authorized to administer an oath on any matters relative to the public service.

It was resolved, that the delegates of the General Congress of the united colonies, should be annually chosen by the Assembly, at their session in October, and that the delegates directed to attend, should so attend on the 1st day of January then next after their election, (if Congress should be then in session); always provided, that the old members should continue to hold their seats, until the new elected members should arrive and take their seats in Congress.

The Legislature resolved, that the selectmen, for the time being, of each town in the colony, should be inspectors of nitre and salt petre made in the colony, with the same authority as other inspectors of salt petre by a former act.

Titus Hosmer, Ephraim Strong, John Holbrook, Jabez Hamlin, Esq's., and Deot. John Dickinson, were appointed a committee to examine where any mines or mineral substances that contained sulphur might be found in the colony, and procure experienced workmen to make experiments on ores, that they might be able to judge of the expense of manufacturing sulphur, &c., and make report to the next session, or to the Governor. And that in case the committee should report to the Governor, that the Governor with his Council of Safety, should be empowered to give orders to said committee to proceed in the manufacture of sulphur for the use and at the expense of the colony, for the purpose of being manufactured into powder for the colony.

Col. David Waterbury was appointed a committee to purchase a brigantine of John Griggs for the use of the colony, to be fitted as an armed vessel for the defence of the coast, and he was authorized to pay for said vessel, not to exceed the sum of £1,000, and to take an inventory of all appurtenances belonging to said brigantine, with a bill of sale to the Governor and company of the colony; and make report to said Assembly in case he should purchase said vessel, and proceed with her to New Haven with all convenient despatch.

Col. David Waterbury and Capt. Isaac Sears, were also appointed a committee to enquire after a suitable vessel to be improved as an armed vessel in defence of the colony, either to purchase or charter, with their estimate and opinions, to report during the session.

Col. Waterbury and Capt. Sears were also appointed to view and examine a brigantine at Greenwich, and report whether in their opinion she was fit to be improved for an armed vessel for the defence of the colony, together with the terms of sale or charter.

It was resolved, that the troops stationed on the sea coast, in this colony, by order of the Governor and Council of Safety, should be continued in service.

And that the battery of Groton should be furnished with six cannon, 32 pounders, or in lieu thereof, six 24 pounders. And that the battery at Stonington should be supplied with six cannon, two 18 and four 12 pounders. And that the battery at New Haven should be supplied with sixteen cannon, viz : six 18 and ten 12 pounders. And that the harbor at Milford should be furnished with six of the cannon then at New Haven, if they could be obtained. And the Governor and his Council of Safety were empowered to supply the batteries with cannon and ammunition, from time to time, as they should find necessary ; with power vested in the Governor and Council of Safety, to augment, disband, or discharge any or all the troops then stationed on the sea coast, from time to time, as they should judge expedient.

Capt. Giles Hall, commander of the brigantine *Minerva*, in the colony service, was directed forthwith to deliver Jonathan Fitch, Esq. at New Haven, all the guns and warlike stores on board said brigantine, and dismiss as many hands as he should think proper, reserving enough to sail said vessel into Connecticut river, and sail her with all possible despatch to Rocky Hill, and deliver her to the owner, according to the charter ; and make up his bill and muster roll, and lay them before the committee of pay table for payment, &c.

The Governor and his committee were directed to build, or otherwise procure, one armed vessel in addition to those before ordered, and four row galleys, suitably manned, armed, and equipped for the defence of this and the neighboring colonies.

The colonel of each regiment of militia in the colony, (except the 24th regiment,) or in the absence of the colonel, the chief officer in the regiment was ordered, as soon as might be, or at the time of enlisting minute men, to cause the arms and ammunition of all the militia under their command, to be viewed and examined, and an account taken thereof ; also, an account of the ammunition in the several town stocks in each regiment, and an exact account of the several sorts and quantity of ammunition that each town had supplied or delivered out of their town stocks for the use of the troops in the continental service ; also, an account of the number of companies and troops in their regiments, with the names of commissioned officers, and number of men in each, and forthwith make returns to the Captain General.

William Samuel Johnson, Esq., for the counties of Fairfield and Litchfield ; Titus Hosmer, Esq., for the county of Hartford ; Samuel Bishop, Esq., for New Haven county ; and Nathaniel Miner, Esq., for the counties of New London and Windham, were appointed to procure a just and an authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the ministerial troops or navy, where damage had been done to the property or person of any in the colony, after the month of March, 1775 ; with the evidence of the facts by them related ; the number and value of the vessels, either inward or outward bound, which had been seized by them since said March ; also, as near as might be, their value with their cargoes when taken, and make return to the Governor of the colony, that he should be enabled to make proper returns to the committee of the Continental Congress, according to the resolution of Congress.\*

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\* The report of this committee, having been returned to the Governor, is not found in the Secretary's office, but is probably with Governor Trumbull's other executive papers, at Boston.



The Governor was authorized to appoint a chaplain to each regiment in the continental service from this colony, with the same wages that had been allowed chaplains in the last campaign; and as a further inducement, granted to each chaplain that should thereafter so serve, the sum of forty shillings per month during their actual service, to enable them to supply their respective pulpits with preaching in their absence.

Hon. Andrew Adama, attorney of the king for Litchfield county, informed that Benjamin Kilbourn who was a lieutenant in the 1st military company in Litchfield, had at sundry times, declared that he wished there were ten hundred thousand regular troops then landed in the colony, and that he would join them to subdue the Americans, who were in a state of rebellion; that the commanding officer who fired upon the town of Falmouth, treated the inhabitants too mildly and gently, much more so than he would have done, if he had had the command; that he would join the regulars, and would kill some of the inhabitants of the colony, &c. &c. The Legislature cashiered the said Benjamin of his office, and an order was given to fill the vacancy in said company. And said attorney was ordered by said Assembly to prosecute said Benjamin for his offences.

William and George Pitkin had license of the Assembly for erecting a mill for manufacturing of gun powder about three miles east of Connecticut river, in Hartford.

The information of Peter Bulkley, vs. Henry Champion, of Colchester, was continued to the next session with an order of notice.

David Hawley, of Stratford, made a voyage to the West Indies, with a small cargo on board, to purchase a quantity of gun powder if it could be obtained, under the advice of the committee of inspection of Stratford and Fairfield; that he went to several West India Islands and could procure only 100 pounds of gun powder; that he made a contract there to be supplied with a cargo of gun powder, if he should be permitted to make a second voyage; that on his return voyage he had found that the Governor's proclamation continuing the first embargo, that had expired a few days before he sailed to the West Indies; that he had it not in his heart to disobey the laws of his country—and asked the Assembly to exempt him from prosecution or punishment, and that he should be directed as to the disposal of said gun powder. Said Hawley was exempted from punishment, and ordered to divide said powder equally between the towns of Fairfield and Stratford.

Adam Babcock, of New Haven, had liberty given to export 5,000 pounds of cheese to North Carolina, to defray his expense of a voyage there to recover his debt, for the sale of a brigantine there sold; provided he should procure a quantity of rice for the use of the army.

Liberty was given to Jedediah Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., to erect a powder mill in the town of Windham, for manufacturing gun powder, pursuant to an act of said Assembly.

A further day of payment to Aaron Elliott, of Killingworth, was given for the sum of £500 due the colony.

Thomas Darling, Amos Botsford, and Jeremiah Atwater, were appointed a committee, to enquire into the claims of Eliphalet A. Beecher, of New Haven, for sums of money expended in procuring teams, in the (then) last war.

Daniel Clifford, of Fairfield, had exported in his boat to New York, four bushels of Indian corn, and sold of it one bushel and a half, and returned to Fair-



field with the remainder, not knowing the embargo was continued—asked the Assembly to exempt him from prosecution, which was granted.

The Treasurer of the colony was directed to pay the Hon. Oliver Wolcott and Samuel Huntington, the sum of £200 towards defraying their expense of attendance on the Continental Congress, as delegates from Connecticut, and to take their receipts to account.

The General Assembly was adjourned by proclamation, on the 14th day of December, 1775.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### MAY SESSION.

General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, at Hartford, held on the 2d Thursday of May, (being the 9th day of the month) and continued until the 8th day of June, A. D. 1776.

HON. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

AN act repealing the act of the colony, against high treason, was passed in these words—"That the aforesaid *act* and every *part* and *paragraph* thereof "be and the same is hereby repealed and made null and void."

The forms of oaths at this session were changed and established, swearing to be true and faithful to the Governor and company of the colony, and the government thereof. The oath of allegiance was also repealed.

The paragraph of an act for preventing and punishing riots and rioters, was repealed, and the form of the proclamation altered so as to read "the Governor and company of this colony, charge and command all persons, &c." (and not his Majesty.)

The following acts for forming the militia, and encouragement of military skill, &c., were also passed, viz.:

An act in further addition to an act, entitled, an act for forming and regulating the militia, and for the encouragement of military skill, for the better defence of this colony.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that all the troops of horse in this colony, shall be formed into regiments of light horse as followeth, viz.:

That the troops of horse in the first, second, sixth, seventh, tenth, and twenty-third regiments of militia, be, and they are hereby made and declared to be one entire and distinct regiment of light horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the first regiment.

That the troops of horse in the third, eighth, twelfth, twentieth, and twenty-fifth regiments of militia, be, and they are hereby made and declared to be one

entire and distinct regiment of light horse ; and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the second regiment.

That the troops of horse in the fourth, ninth, and sixteenth regiments of militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct regiment of light horse ; and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the third regiment.

That the troops of horse in the fifth, eleventh, nineteenth, twenty-first, and twenty-second regiments of militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct regiment of light horse ; and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the fourth regiment.

That the troops of horse in the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth regiments of militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct regiment of light horse ; and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the fifth regiment.

That there shall be only one colonel and one lieutenant colonel to command the whole, and one major in each of said regiments, from time to time appointed by the General Assembly, who shall be commissioned by the Governor of this colony for the time being. And the said colonel, lieutenant colonel, and the majors of each of said regiments, shall be subject to the command of the general or commander-in-chief of the militia for the time being, and shall have the same duty, powers, and authority, as the officers of the same rank in the regiments of militia already by law have. And said regiments of light horse shall be liable to such regimental duty as the regiments of militia are already by law liable.

And be it further enacted, that every trooper, already enlisted in any troop of light horse in this colony, shall equip himself with arms and accoutrements, according to law, within three months next after the rising of this Assembly : And that every person that shall hereafter enlist into any of said troops of light horse, shall, within six months next after his enlistment, equip and accoutre himself as aforesaid ; and in default thereof, such trooper or troopers shall be reduced to the foot company or companies, within the limits of which they inhabit, and be liable to do duty in the same, as he or they were before they enlisted into such troop, as aforesaid ; any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Also an act as follows, viz. : Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that whosoever any soldier or soldiers, belonging to any of the regiments in this colony, shall refuse to muster and march, according to orders given him by his commanding officer, for the purposes mentioned in said act ; such soldier, so refusing, shall suffer the penalty of            pounds lawful money, for the use of the colony ; any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

The act establishing naval officers and governing the same, is as follows, viz. :

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, that the Governor for the time being shall be naval officer in this colony.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be kept at the port of New London one naval office, at the port of New Haven one other naval office, at the port of Middletown one other naval office, and at the port of Norwalk one other naval office : and that the Governor for the time

being depute some proper person at each of said ports as naval officers, and take bond, with sufficient surety, in the sum of one thousand pounds, for the faithful discharge of their duty therein, to enter and clear out vessels and their cargoes, and to do and act therein in such way and manner, and according to such rules and orders, as to such their offices respectively appertain.

Whereas it is recommended by the Honorable Continental Congress to the several Legislatures in the united colonies, as soon as possible, to erect courts of justice, or give jurisdiction to the courts now in being, for the purpose of determining concerning captures, &c., and to provide that all trials in such case, be had by a jury, under such qualifications as to the respective Legislatures shall seem expedient.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the respective county courts in this colony be, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, constituted and appointed to try, judge, and determine, by jury or otherwise, as in other cases, concerning all captures that have or shall be taken and brought into said respective counties: and that the civil law, the laws of nations, and the resolutions of Congress, be the rule of their adjudications, determinations, and proceedings therein. And said respective county courts are hereby authorized and empowered to constitute and appoint such proper officers under them, as they shall find necessary and expedient for the purposes aforesaid.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that appeals be allowed to the Continental Congress, under the restrictions, and agreeable to the directions and resolves of said Congress. And that the fees for said court, and the respective officers thereof, be reasonable, and such as are customary in the neighboring colonies, or may be established by said Congress, or by this Assembly. And the judge of said respective county courts is hereby authorized to call said court, for said purpose, at any place within the respective counties, as shall be most convenient and expedient.

An act for the more effectually carrying into execution several acts relative to making salt petre and gun powder was passed, as follows, viz..

Whereas by an act of this Assembly, in May, 1775, there was a premium of four shillings on the pound granted for all salt petre made in this colony, before the first day of June, 1776; and in December, 1775, a bounty or premium of two shillings on the pound for all salt petre manufactured in this colony, from and after the first day of June, 1776, and before the first day of January, 1777; and that inspectors should be appointed to view and inspect the same, and administer an oath and certify as therein directed; and purchase and receive the same for the use of the colony; and by a further act, in the same sessions, it was resolved, that the selectmen in each town, within this colony, shall be the inspectors of salt petre, with all the powers and authorities by said acts given to inspectors of salt petre, &c. But no time being mentioned in said acts for delivering the salt petre to the inspectors, nor price affixed for the purchase; and sundry other regulations being necessary to carry the aforesaid acts into execution, Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that for all the salt petre made in this colony, before the first day of June, 1776, on which the premium of four shillings on the pound is claimed, shall be delivered for

inspection, to the selectmen, authorized and empowered to inspect the same, or be by them inspected, within fifteen days at farthest, after the last day of May, instant; and that after the first day of June, the manufacturers producing the same for inspection, shall make oath before the inspector or inspectors, that the said nitre or salt petre produced as aforesaid, was made and manufactured before the first day of June, otherwise it shall be considered as made after; and that all the salt petre made as aforesaid, after the last day of May, and before the first day of January next, in order to be entitled to the premium of two shillings on the pound, shall be treated and conducted in the same manner, having respect to the first day of January, as before, to the first day of June; and that upon the whole it shall be the duty of the inspector or inspectors, carefully to see that all the salt petre offered or delivered to them for inspection, be pure, clean, and dry, and free from any corrupt mixture, before they give any certificate of the same, and on the same being so found, shall give a certificate thereof, with the other requisites, before either the premium or purchase money shall be paid therefor, and the salt petre produced to the inspectors as aforesaid, shall be delivered in casks or other packages proper and sufficient for transportation to the powder works, with the maker's name and the name of the town wherein made, fairly marked thereon.

And be it further enacted, that for all the salt petre made and manufactured in this colony, before the first day of January next, inspected and found to be pure, clean, dry and unmixed, and fit for use, according to law, and so delivered to the inspector or inspectors, in proper packages, marked as aforesaid, for the use of this colony, shall be paid therefor, out of the colony treasury, the sum of three shillings per pound, for every pound, only deducting therefrom one halfpenny on each pound delivered as aforesaid, as a general estimate on the whole, for transportation to the respective powder mills, erected and allowed in this colony, and for other charges attending the same. Provided nevertheless, that all persons who have made and manufactured salt petre, and have already procured the same to be inspected, and delivered to the inspector for the use of this colony, shall be entitled to receive the price aforesaid therefor, notwithstanding the same may not be put up in casks or packages marked as aforesaid.

And it is further enacted, that the several inspectors convey and deliver, with all convenient despatch, all the salt petre by them received as aforesaid, to the owner or owners of the several powder mills in this colony, assigned by the Governor and Committee of Safety for the time being, to receive the same, taking his or their receipt therefor, and the same transmit and lodge with the committee of pay table. And the inspector or inspectors performing their duty, as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a reasonable allowance for his or their trouble and services, as aforesaid, to be adjusted by the committee of pay table, who shall order payment of the same accordingly.

And to the intent that all frauds, and impure or corrupt mixtures may be detected, and the persons concerned therein be duly punished:

Be it enacted, that the inspector or inspectors delivering, as also the owner, owners, or overseers of the powder mills, receiving the salt petre as aforesaid, shall make and keep a true, just, and fair entry, of all the salt petre delivered and received as aforesaid, and of the names of the makers thereof. And whoever shall be found guilty, and be convicted of any fraudulent and impure

mixture, in the salt petre by them made and delivered for inspection as aforesaid, shall forfeit to the Treasurer of this colony, the value of the premium and pay, granted and allowed on the salt petre in which such mixture shall be found.

And the owner or owners of the several powder mills, shall well, truly, and faithfully make up, or cause to be made, all the salt petre delivered to them as aforesaid, into good, merchantable powder, well dried, fit for use, and find all the other materials necessary therefor, and the same put up in good, tight, sizable casks, which shall contain either one hundred, one half, or one quarter hundred weight of powder each, marked with the just and true weight of the cask, and also with the initial letters of the maker's name, and the same deliver to the Governor and Committee of Safety of this colony, or to their order, for the use of this colony; and shall receive therefor, out of the colony treasury, at the rate of nine dollars per hundred, for every hundred weight of good, merchantable powder, made and delivered as aforesaid, upon a certificate thereof, had and obtained of the Governor, or Governor and Committee of Safety, produced to the committee of pay table of this colony.

Be it further enacted, that the Governor and Committee of Safety, for the time being, from time to time, order, and give directions for the disposition of all their powder, made at the several powder mills within this colony, and, if need be, erect convenient houses for the reception of the same, in such places as they think proper.

The article of salt being of great importance, and obtaining it by importation difficult, uncertain, and dangerous; the Legislature, to encourage the manufacture of salt in the colony, offered a premium of £100, to be paid out of the public treasury of the colony, to the person or persons, who should erect proper works and vats for manufacturing salt in the colony, and make the first five hundred bushels of good merchantable salt; and the sum of £80 to the person who should erect works, &c., and manufacture the second five hundred bushels of salt; and the sum of £60 for the manufacture of the third quantity of five hundred bushels of common salt; and the sum of £40 to the fourth person who should manufacture five hundred bushels as aforesaid. Provided that said salt should be made, and a certificate under oath should be produced by or before the first day of October, 1777.

An act for raising and equipping a body of minute men, to be held in readiness for the better defence of the colony; and for repealing an act for the same purpose, enacted December, 1775. The Legislature, finding that the American colonies were threatened with immediate ministerial power, and great exertions were making to reduce the colonies to obedience and bondage by their own and foreign additional troops, which at the time were daily expected to invade the colonies; it was deemed of great importance for the safety and salvation of this country, that the inhabitants should be put in the best situation possible for self-defence:—It was therefore ordered, that one-third part of the 2d, 3d, 4th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 20th regiments; and one-fourth part of the other regiments of militia, or a number equal thereto, should be forthwith enlisted, or detailed from the limits of the several regiments in the colony, to be held in readiness for the defence of this or any of the adjoining colonies. And that it should be immediately effected; the colonels or chief officers of the regiments, were directed forthwith to order the chief officer of each company in their regiments to convene their companies, (and all others within the limits of said companies who

were obliged to keep arms, and under 55 and over 16 years of age,) then to enlist out of any of them the number aforesaid. But if a sufficient number should not voluntarily enlist, the captain, with the advice and assistance of the other commissioned officers, were directed to detach and impress out of said companies to make the complement required ; and those detached to perform like duties with those who should enlist, on a penalty of £10 for refusing ; and the captains, &c. were to make immediate returns to their respective colonels.—The field officers were then ordered to form said men into companies of about sixty-eight rank and file ; and with the advice of the captains and commissioned officers of said companies, nominate officers for said new companies, viz : 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 ensign, out of such as had or did then hold commissions of equal rank, and return a muster roll, and their doings to the Governor, who was authorized to commission said officers. The Governor and Committee of Safety was then authorized to form said companies into regiments, and place them under field militia officers, to take the command of the new troops, as he should think proper. And said officers and soldiers were ordered to equip themselves to the acceptance of the captains, and the same hold in constant readiness for service ; for which it was provided they should receive a premium of 40 shillings each. The captain of each company was ordered to procure a drum and fife, to be paid for by the colony ; all which it was made the duty of the captains and commissioned officers to see performed—furnished with arms and equipped ; and if any soldier was found deficient in arms, and arms could not be obtained, they were ordered to impress them, by a warrant for that purpose, by the civil authority ; for which deficiency, said soldier was to lose half his premium, which was to be paid for the use of impressed arms, &c. Officers and minute men to be allowed for necessary time to meet for exercise, at the rate before allowed in like cases. And said officers and soldiers were to hold themselves in constant readiness to march at the shortest notice, by order of the Captain General, or other superior officers ; and when in actual service, to receive the same wages and billeting as other troops before raised in the colony. Also to be exempt from duty in other military companies. To be held in service not exceeding one year after the 1st day of June, 1776, then to be disbanded. (This act not to be extended to include the twenty-fourth regiment.)

It was also enacted, that the third part of the 3d, 8th, and 20th regiments, and a fourth part of the militia in the 1st regiment, and the remainder on the east side of Connecticut river, then lately ordered by the Governor and Committee of Safety to be drafted, equipped, and held in readiness according to order.—The act raising minute men, passed December 1, 1775, was repealed by this act, and made void. And such men as were raised under said repealed act, were made minute men under this act. And those minute men raised under this act, not to be continued in service more than three months at one time, before relieved, or permitted to return home. No premium was to be paid to either officer or soldier until completely equipped ; directing such, (if any) who had received a premium and not equipped, the premium to be deducted from his wages.

An act for raising a battalion or regiment of troops to march to Boston, or elsewhere, (in pursuance of a requisition, then made by the Continental Congress, for the defence of the united colonies,) was passed ; in which it was provided, that the first regiment or battalion of troops should be forthwith raised in the colony, by voluntary enlistment, for the defence of the colonies ; to consist

of 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, and eight companies, with 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 4 sargeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, and 76 privates to each company; and a staff of 1 chaplain, 1 adjutant, 1 quarter master, 1 surgeon, and 1 surgeon's mate; to be under the same laws, rules, and regulations as continental troops then were; same pay, wages, allowances, billeting, provisions, premiums for arms, &c. to be enlisted for and holden in said service, two years from the 14th of May, 1776, unless sooner discharged by Congress; and if so discharged, to be allowed one months pay on their discharge; or enlisted for one year only from the said 14th of May, and be accordingly held, unless sooner discharged.

And to encourage men to enlist in said service, it was resolved, that the pay of each sargeant should be 48 shillings; corporal, 44 shillings; drummer and fifer each, 44 shillings; each private, 40 shillings per calendar month during their service, and one months pay in advance before they should march, and allowed one penny per mile for expenses out and home, and 12 shillings to each man who should supply himself a good blanket, and take it with him until the close of the campaign; and such further encouragements as were allowed by Congress to the forces then raising for said service.

The alarming movements of the ministerial army and navy, were such as rendered it probable that a sudden attack would soon be made by them upon this and the other colonies; the Legislature, therefore, deemed it necessary to raise two additional regiments of troops within the colony; that one regiment of the inhabitants should be immediately raised by voluntary enlistment; that the troops then raised at and about New London and New Haven should be augmented into a second regiment, for the special defence of this and the other colonies, as the case should require. Each regiment to consist of 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, and eight companies with 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 4 sargeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, and 76 privates to each company; and the usual staff to each regiment, and the same pay, wages, billeting, provisions, premiums for supplying themselves with arms, accoutrements, &c., as was given to the troops raised in April, 1775, and under the same laws, regulations, &c. To be held in service until the 1st day of January, 1777, unless sooner discharged. To be marched and stationed from time to time under the orders of the Captain General; to be subject to join the continental army, if so ordered by the Governor; and if so, to be under the same laws, regulations, pay, &c., as the troops in the continental army, and subject to the same general command.

And in case that the troops so raised should neglect, or be unable to furnish arms, &c., for the premium, they were to be furnished as provided for furnishing troops raised in July, 1775.

And for the encouragement to men to enlist as aforesaid, it was enacted, that each person on such enlistment should be entitled to 12 shillings premium, if he should supply himself with a blanket, knapsack, and clothing, to the acceptance of his captain, and one months pay advanced. Each sargeant to receive 48 shillings; corporal, drummer, and fifer each, 44 shillings; and privates 40 shillings, per calendar month for wages during service. Each supplying himself with arms, with a good bayonet and cartouch box, to be paid a premium of 10 shillings; which arms, &c., if lost by accident, to be paid for, deducting the premium of 10 shillings. An account to be taken of all the



arms, &c., and appraised by disinterested freeholders. Each man so engaging, to be entitled on his enlistment to 6 pence per day for billeting money, until otherwise provided by the public. And if said troops so to be raised, should, by order of the Captain General, join the continental army or service, then they were to be entitled to the same wages, and one penny per mile out and home for marching expenses, and 12 shillings for each who should supply himself with a blanket, and such other encouragement as would be given to the continental troops.

This Assembly do appoint, Andrew Ward, colonel; Obadiah Johnson,<sup>a</sup> lieutenant colonel; and William Douglass, major of the regiment now to be raised in this colony, to serve in the continental army.

Also David Waterbury, Jr., colonel; Comfort Sage, lieutenant colonel; and Oliver Smith, of Stonington, major, to be stationed at or near New London.

Benjamin Hinman, colonel; Philip Burr Bradley, lieutenant colonel; and David Dimon, major of a regiment now to be raised for the defence of the colony.

This Assembly appointed, Joseph Thomson, of New Haven, captain of a company, in a regiment to be raised and stationed at and about New London and New Haven; Samuel Wilmott, of New Haven, 1st lieutenant; John Prudden, Jr., of Milford, 2d lieutenant; Edward Tiley, of New Haven, ensign.

Jonathan Wolles, of Hartford, captain of a company; David Johnson, of East Windsor, 1st lieutenant; Howell Woodbridge, of Glastenbury, 2d lieutenant; Roger Bull, of Wethersfield, ensign.

Abiel Pease, of Somers, captain of a company; Thomas Abby, of Enfield, 1st lieutenant; Israel Converse, of Stafford, 2d lieutenant; Abner Wood, of Stafford, ensign.

Eliphalet Bulkley, of Colchester, captain of a company; Thomas Harvey, of East Haddam, 1st lieutenant; Richard Johnson, of Haddam, 2d lieutenant; David Spencer, of East Haddam, ensign.

Noah Phelps, of Simsbury, captain of a company, in a regiment to be raised for the continental service; Consider Willeston, of Suffield, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Carvor, of Bolton, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Smith, of East Windsor, ensign.

Noadiah Hooker, captain of a company in said regiment; John Skinner, 1st lieutenant; Peleg Heath, 2d lieutenant; Lemuel Hotchkiss, ensign.

John Ripley, captain of a company in said regiment; Andrew Fitch, 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Wales, 3d, 2d lieutenant; Ichabod Bosworth, ensign.

Waterman Clift, captain of a company in said regiment; Daniel Allen, 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Morgan, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Nichols, Jr., ensign.

Abner Pryor, captain of a company in said regiment; James Steel, 1st lieutenant; Jonathan Parker, 2d lieutenant; Benjamin Henshaw, Jr., ensign.

James Darn, captain of a company in said regiment; Elijah Sharp, 1st lieutenant; Squire Hill, 2d lieutenant; Ephraim Kingsbury, ensign.

James Arnold, captain of a company in said regiment; Samuel Barker, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Bunnell, 2d lieutenant; Michael Brownson, ensign.

Benoni Cutler, captain of a company in said regiment; William Manning, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Durkee, 2d lieutenant; Obadiah Child, ensign.



Noble Benedict, captain of a company in a regiment to be raised for the defence of this and the adjoining colonies; Jabez Botsford, 1st lieutenant; Gamaliel Northrop, 2d lieutenant; Timothy Taylor, ensign.

Matthew Mead, captain of a company in said regiment; Sylvanus Mead, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Hart, 5th, 2d lieutenant; Jeremiah Beard Elles, ensign.

Elijah Abell, captain of a company in said regiment; John Blackleach, 1st lieutenant; William Hawley, 2d lieutenant; Judson Whiting, ensign.

Isaac Cook, captain of a company in said regiment; Stephen Hall, 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Edwards, 2d lieutenant; John Humphrey, ensign.

Josiah Starr, captain of a company in said regiment; Thomas Tanner, 1st lieutenant; Josiah Stoddard, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Bellamy, ensign.

Jonathan Johnson, captain of a company in said regiment; John Hanmer, 1st lieutenant; Thomas Stephenson, 2d lieutenant; Timothy Towner, ensign.

Bezaleel Bebee, captain of a company in said regiment; Jesse Cook, 1st lieutenant; James Watson, 2d lieutenant; Wait Beach, ensign.

Benjamin Mills, captain of a company in said regiment; Daniel Brinemade, 1st lieutenant; Elijah Foster, 2d lieutenant; Thaddeus Hurd, ensign.

Rev. Benjamin Trumbull, was appointed chaplain of the regiment to be raised for continental service.

Rev. Nathaniel Ellis, of Stonington, was appointed chaplain of the regiment to be raised and stationed at and near New London.

Forms of enlisting were enacted. And it was further enacted that the regiment directed this session, to be stationed at New London and places adjacent, should be augmented to nine companies, with a like number of officers as the other companies.

It was provided, that in case any of the soldiers in the continental regiment raised this session, should not be able, forthwith, to supply themselves with arms, and could not be furnished with colony arms, that the selectmen of the respective towns should supply the deficiency, and should deliver them to the captain of the company, where said arms should be wanting, and take his receipt therefor; when said selectmen were directed to exhibit the costs of said arms to the committee of pay table, for an order on the Treasurer for the payment of costs and expenses. And if a sufficient number of arms could not be obtained in this way, the deficiency was ordered to be impressed by proper warrants from householders and others not in the militia roll; and that 5 shillings should be paid for the use of each gun so impressed, and in case of the loss of said guns, to be paid the value thereof, and appraised with the other arms in said regiment. It was made the duty of each captain to take an account of all arms in his company; such as the soldiers provided for themselves, in one class; such as belonged to the colony; such as should be impressed or purchased; and transmit the accounts, with the prices annexed, to the committee of pay table. And the Governor was desired and authorized to appoint a person or persons to muster said companies. And it was provided, that in case any officer who had been appointed in the three regiments aforesaid, should decline the trust, that the Governor should fill the vacancy so occasioned. It was provided, that the Governor and Council of Safety should give directions for selecting a number of officers and men from the regiment raised to be stationed at New London and the sea coast, or appoint other officers, as should be found necessary to be

employed and exercised as matross or artillery men, to manage the cannon at the forts that were then or should be erected at New London; and to make such orders as should be necessary to form such an establishment, and carry the same into execution.

The companies raised by the Governor and Council of Safety, stationed at New London, New Haven, Groton, and Stonington, were put upon the continental plan of pay and provisions; and the Assembly having before resolved to augment them to a full regiment, and the regiments now ordered to be raised upon the regulations established in April, 1775; it was resolved at this session, that the Governor and Committee of Safety, should bring said companies upon the colony plan and regulations, by directing new enlistments, or some other method to continue the officers before appointed to command them, or appoint others as they should judge proper; and to discharge said companies, or such of the men as would not engage upon the (then) colony plan, and fill their places as soon as might be.

The exigences of the government of the colony was such at this time, that it became necessary to raise a farther sum of money to support the government, and defray its expenses; the Legislature therefore directed an emission of £60,000 of bills of credit on the colony, of different denominations, from 1 shilling to 40 shillings; £10,000 of which were to be 6 shillings and less, and of the same tenor with the preceding emissions of bills, without interest, and payable at or before the 1st day of January, 1781, and dated 7th day of June, 1776.

J. Hamlin, William Pitkin, George Wylls, E. Williams, B. Payne, Thomas Seymour, and Jesse Root, or any three of them, were appointed a committee to attend to the issuing said bills, sign and deliver them to the Treasurer, and take his receipt for the same. It was provided that the signature of one of the committee for bills of 6 shillings or less, should be a sufficient authentication; but that two of said committee should sign the bills if of a larger denomination than 6 shillings; and were sworn to a faithful execution of their trust. A tax of 8 pence on the pound was then laid on all the polls and rateable estate in the colony, on the list of October, 1778, and to be paid into the colony treasury by the last day of December, 1780. It was further provided, that the tax should be payable in any bills emitted by order of the Assembly, continental bills or lawful money.

Forms of commissions for judges of courts were enacted at this session, making the address "The Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America."

A letter having been received from the Hon. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, by the Legislature, to enable the Governor to answer the same, the Assembly directed that the selectmen in the respective towns in the colony, by or before the 1st day of September, 1776, should transmit to the Governor an exact account of all persons in their respective towns in the colony, as well as free negroes or slaves for life, as white persons; distinguishing the number who were under the age of 20 years, from those who should be older; also the sexes, whether married or single; those in the militia, and all able bodied men who did not belong to the militia; all in actual service; which act was directed to be printed forthwith, and distributed to said towns; and it was required that said returns to the Governor, should be attested by the selectmen of their respective towns to have been faithfully and truly made.

The Legislature ordered, that colony taxes due against those in the service of the country should not be enforced against them or their property, until they should return; provided the collectors of such taxes should produce to the Treasurer a certificate, under the hands of the civil authority and selectmen of the town where said collector resided, of the sum, absence of the debtor, &c.

As it was of paramount importance that the credit of the currency of the colony should at this time be sustained, by freely circulating it in the country; the Legislature directed the Treasurer of the colony to receive paper bills of the continental currency, when they should be offered in payment of colony taxes, or any other debts due to the Treasurer, until he should be otherwise instructed by the Legislature.

The Legislature having been informed that various persons were engrossing the rum, sugar, molasses, salt, and other West India productions and goods, with an intent of exporting them out of the colony: they passed an act prohibiting the exportation of said articles, either by land or water, out of the colony on or before the 1st day of November, 1776, under the penalties and forfeitures of the act enabling the Governor to lay an embargo, or be otherwise punished by forfeiting the value of such goods so put on board, shipped, or exported; and the Governor was directed to issue his proclamation forthwith, prohibiting such exportation accordingly, excepting such West India goods as were required to be exported for the army, and then only upon application to the Governor by the Continental Congress, or General Washington.

Hon. Oliver Ellsworth was appointed and empowered forthwith to repair to Gen. Schuyler, at Albany, or elsewhere, and lay before him the accounts and pay rolls of the several regiments and companies raised in the colony of Connecticut, who had been employed in the continental service the preceding year, in Canada; which accounts had been paid by Connecticut,—and request of Gen. Schuyler a warrant for re-payment of the sums advanced and paid the continental troops, and receive the same and pay it to the Treasurer of this colony, take his receipt therefor, and lodge said receipt with the Secretary of the colony.

Hon. Matthew Griswold, Eliphalet Dyer, J. Huntington, William Williams, Richard Law, Titus Hosmer, Benjamin Huntington, Col. J. Elderkin, William Hillhouse, and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., were appointed a Council of Safety to assist the Governor in the recess of the General Assembly, with authority to direct the militia and navy of the colony, marches and stations of the troops, either in whole or part, and give all necessary orders for furnishing said militia, troops and navy, in every respect to render the defence of the colony effectual to fulfil and execute every trust already reposed by the Assembly in the Governor; with power and authority in the Governor to notify and convene the whole of said committee on all important occasions before them. But in cases where necessity and safety required immediate action, or on small matters, the Governor, at his discretion, was authorized to convene a part of said Council, not less than five, to act with him. It was also resolved, that the per diem allowance to each of said committee, including their expenses, should be 8 shillings.

The Governor was desired to prepare authenticated copies of the petitions to the King, and letters to the Secretary of State, &c., passed since the commencement of the war between Great Britain and the American colonies; and transmit the same to the Continental Congress.

The Governor laid before the Assembly the doings of himself and Council of Safety assigned them, relative to fortifying the port and harbor of New London, under a resolve of the Assembly in December, 1775; from which it appeared that the works were not completed. It was ordered that the Governor should be desired, with the assistance of his Council, to complete said works, and to effect which, to employ as many men as they should judge proper and convenient.

Representation having been made to the Legislature, that some of the soldiers in the service of the colony, in 1775, had been returned as *deserters*, and had received their entire wages, viz.: in Col. Starr's company, 10; in Capt. Moseley's company, 30; in Capt. Knowlton's company, 7; in Capt. Clark's company, 2; in Capt. Elliott's company, 2. A committee was appointed to enquire whether the wages had been paid said deserters, fraudulently or accidentally, who were concerned in said transaction, &c. The committee reported, that the persons concerned in the premises, were not present, and they had not been furnished with any documents, to investigate the transaction. The Governor was therefore desired to write to the delegates from this colony in Congress, informing them of the transaction, that no prejudice should arise against the colony therein; and appointed the committee of pay table, with power to examine into the facts as they might think proper, and report to the Assembly thereon.

Capt. Jeremiah Wadsworth, Col. Jonathan Fitch, Capt. William Ledyard, Capt. Samuel Squire, Col. Jedediah Elderkin, and Mr. Jedediah Strong were appointed a committee to purchase 5,000 pair of yarn stockings for the army in Canada, as soon as might be, and report to the Governor, with a fair account of the number they should each purchase, with the prices; and the Governor was directed to cause the same to be transported to New York, and delivered to Alsoper Francis Lewis, Esq., agreeable to the request of Congress; and also transmit the costs thereof to Roger Sherman, Esq., that it should be speedily repaid.

A premium of two shillings and six pence, lawful money, (in addition to the former premium of one and six pence,) was offered for each double bridled, good, well-made gun-lock, manufactured within the colony, after the 10th of June, and before the 20th day of October, 1776.

It was resolved, that the Governor and Committee of Safety should be authorized to adjust all accounts of expenses incurred, or that should incur, for services performed, or should be rendered for the use of the colony, by order of their Board, in pursuance of any act or resolution of the General Assembly, and certify the sum due on such accounts, to the committee of pay table, who should draw an order on the Treasurer for the payment thereof.

The Governor was empowered, during the session of the Assembly, to fill the blank commissions for private ships of war, and letters of marque and reprisal sent, or that should be sent by the President of Congress to the Assembly, and the same deliver to the person intending to fit out such private ships of war, who should apply for the same, and see that a proper bond be executed, and sent with the commissions, and perfected and returned according to the resolutions of the Continental Congress.

The committee of pay table was directed to receive and adjust the accounts for supporting the continental prisoners in the colony, and prepare authentic

copies thereof, properly attested, and transmit them to the Governor ;—who was desired to forward the same, that they might be laid before the Continental Congress, for payment.

The Governor was requested to fill the blank commissions for private ships of war, and letters of marque and reprisal, sent by Congress to the Assembly, to deliver them to the person fitting said ships, and take proper bonds.

As there was due the officers and soldiers an arrearage of supplies, or rations, who were in the northern army, in 1775 ; it was resolved, that the commissaries appointed in 1775, should, as soon as might be, collect an exact account of what part of the daily rations was delivered to them by the colonels of the respective regiments, and of the arrears due, certified by the colonels and quarter masters of said regiments, or by the commissary of supplies, or other sufficient evidence ; and exhibit said amount to the Commissary General of the northern department, and obtain the payment thereof, after they should have deducted from the amount of each, the continental allowance that had been made by Gen. Schuyler, for billeting, and additional days over and above the colony allowance, which was two shillings and six pence per week in billeting, and about eight shillings per man for the whole term of their enlistment in the addition of days.

It was also resolved, that the home commissaries should speedily settle their accounts with the general and deputy commissaries whom they had supplied with provisions, warlike stores, &c., take duplicate copies of their accounts, signed by them when settled, and distinguishing between the supplies as were delivered before the 3d of August, 1775, and such as were subsequent ; one set of which copies were for vouchers for the home commissaries, to settle with the committee of pay table, the other to use as evidence to support our demand on the Continental Congress for reimbursement.

As it became important that the troops, who had been at the camp at Cambridge and Roxbury, near Boston, as well as those that marched to New York, in the continental service, from this colony, and who had returned to the colony, should be immediately paid. It was ordered by the Assembly, that Col. James Wadsworth, Jr., Col. Matthew Talcott, and Col. Ichabod Lewis be empowered to receive all the pay rolls of the several companies who had marched as aforesaid, and apply to the general to settle the same, and obtain his order for the payment, for the benefit of the officers and soldiers to whom due. And the committee of pay table were to adjust and give orders for all losses of arms and accoutrements, and expenses of sickness for such officers and soldiers, according to the rules established, and for such as had been raised by special orders of said Assembly, and to state an account to be transmitted to Congress, for payment.

And the committee of pay table were empowered to adjust and settle the accounts with the colony commissaries, under oath, and draw on the colony Treasurer for the sums due ; and receive such sums as should be found due the colony, and adjust the accounts of the commissary general, and allow for his trouble for receiving and delivering out stores, provisions, &c., as they should think just and reasonable.

Nathaniel Waldo, Jr., Esq., of Windham, was empowered to settle the account between the colony and Elisha Payno, Esq., the (then) late King's attorney, and secure and recover the balance found due the colony.

It was ordered, that all accounts for necessary provisions for sick soldiers of the colony in the army, in the (then) late campaign, that could not have been

otherwise supplied without danger to the sick, if said provisions had been directed by any surgeon of the army, might be laid before the committee of pay table, and they draw on the Treasurer for what they should find due. And if any officer or soldier in or out of battle, by inevitable providence, should lose or destroy his arms, accoutrements, or clothing ; they were authorized to examine such accounts, and upon proper evidence, allow them, and draw an order for the same.

All post masters in the colony were ordered to prepare their accounts of debts and credits employed by the Assembly, and lay them before the committee of pay table for allowance. And all special posts who had been in the continental service, were advised to prepare their accounts, and procure authentic certificates of their services, and by whom employed, that they might be laid before the Continental Congress for allowance.

The colonels of the militia regiments that marched to New York on the first and last requisitions of Gen. Washington, were directed to forward the pay rolls of the companies in their respective regiments to the Governor and Council of Safety for adjustment, and authentic copies thereof be transmitted by the Governor to Gen. Washington, for payment.

Also, the commissaries of the militia regiments that marched to New York, on the requisition of Gen. Washington, were directed to prepare their accounts of supplies for those regiments, and lay them before the Governor and Council of Safety for adjustment, and be transmitted to Gen. Washington for his order for their payment.

The committee appointed in May, 1775, to procure 3,000 stands of arms, not having been able to supply the complement required, and the army being in great want of them, the privileges and premiums offered in said act, were revived and continued in force until the session of the Assembly, in October, 1776 ; and the committee were directed to use their utmost vigilance to provide the number of arms directed in said act.

Liberty was given by the Legislature, to the inhabitants of Saybrook, to build a battery at the place where the old fort stood in said town, so that it should be well constructed, to contain six carriage guns for the defence of the town and harbor ; and to encourage them in so doing, 20 men (then stationed at New London, &c., were sent to aid the inhabitants to build said fort, and to guard the same, so long as the Governor and Council of Safety should think proper. And the said fort was directed to be furnished with three good carriage guns, in addition to those before there, and all mounted on proper carriages, and furnished with powder and ball, and all other necessary implements for the fort and guns, as soon as might be, at the expense of the colony ; which were placed under the direction of the Governor and Council of Safety during the pleasure of the General Assembly.

The Legislature having been informed that several of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers that belonged to some of the regiments in Fairfield county, had refused to march to New York for the defence of this and that colony, in pursuance of orders by the Captain General of this colony, and the laws of the colony ; it was ordered that the attorney for the Governor and company of the colony in Fairfield county, should forthwith examine into the grounds of their refusal ; and if he should find sufficient grounds of guilt, to prosecute and bring



the supposed offenders to suffer the just punishment provided by law, and prevent the mischiefs threatened thereby.

All the towns in the colony that had supplied any powder for the public service, were directed to present their accounts to the committee of pay table, well authenticated, including their trouble and expense, for adjustment. And said committee were directed to give an order in favor of the selectmen of each town, upon any of the powder mills in the colony, to be refunded in powder, as said committee should find just, and order.

The article of sulphur being extremely scarce, and much needed in the colony for the manufacture of gun powder for the army, Thomas Bidwell, of Pennsylvania, proposed to the Assembly, that if they would furnish him with twenty suitable pots with their receivers, and grant to him the privilege of using the sulphur ore drawn from the lead mine in Middletown, free of charge to him, and the colony would take of him all the well wrought, refined, and genuine sulphur which he should manufacture out of ore found within the colony, at the price of £2:10 for each one hundred pounds within the space of two years next after the 1st of June, 1776; that he would immediately enter upon and continue the manufacture, for the price and term of time specified, &c.; and that when he should close his business in the colony under said contract, that he would fully disclose to some proper person, in the interest of the colony, and an inhabitant of the same, for the benefit of the colony, all his skill and art of manufacturing sulphur, and leave the pots and receivers in the condition they should then be found to the use of the colony: which proposals were accepted by the Assembly, conditioned that the colony should not at that time receive more than fifty tons of sulphur to be made by said Bidwell. Twenty pots and their receivers, were therefore ordered to be procured at the expense of the colony, and delivered to said Bidwell, when he should erect his works; and liberty given him to use the ore raised at Middletown, free of charge to him; and Col. Joshua Porter was appointed with said Bidwell, to procure the twenty pots and receivers to the best advantage for the colony. And the Governor and Council of Safety were empowered to see and order what further should be found necessary to execute said contract.

The Governor and Council of Safety were desired to order an account of the whole expense of raising and marching Col. Burrall's battalion to Albany; together with the expenditure of the 12,500 dollars received for that purpose, to be properly stated, and laid before the Continental Congress, for settlement.

Information having been given to the Legislature, that Capt. D. Hill, Lieut. P. Lyon, and Ensign S. Hawley, all of the 11th company, 4th regiment, under the command of Gold S. Silliman, colonel of said regiment, had, instead of forwarding, as was their duty, endeavored to obstruct and embarrass, and did in fact neglect and refuse to obey certain orders given to them by said colonel, in pursuance of orders from the Captain General, in the month of March, 1776, for the purpose of enlisting or detaching a number in said company, to march for New York; which orders said officers did severally contemptuously disobey, and greatly obstructed the execution thereof. Whereupon the Assembly ordered a precept to be issued by the Secretary of the colony, immediately to arrest the bodies of said offenders respectively, and then have before said Assembly to answer to the information, and be dealt with thereon as to justice should apper-

tain; and that Col. Silliman, and other proper evidences, should be cited to appear.

The Continental Congress ordered and delivered to the delegates of this colony, the sum of \$10,500, to defray the expense of raising a regiment of troops ordered by Congress to be raised in the colony of Connecticut; and Oliver Wolcott, Esq., one of said delegates took for his use, on account of the colony, \$150, and Roger Sherman, Esq., in the same way, \$100, and \$16 given to bring the remainder to the Treasurer of the colony, being \$10,244. The Treasurer was ordered to replace said \$240 out of the money of the colony.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Jonathan Fitch, Jeremiah Wadsworth, Thaddeus Burr, N. Wales, Jr., and Jedediah Strong, Esq's., were appointed a committee to procure £1,800 lawful money in specie, in exchange for bills, and pay the same to the Governor for the use of the northern army, on a request of Congress; and the committee of pay table were directed to draw on the Treasurer of the colony for said sum in bills; and the Governor was desired, on the receipt of the sum, or any part thereof, to forward the same to the proper treasurer, pay master, or officer, to be used for the purpose aforesaid; and lay the account before Congress, that the same should be replaced in the treasury as soon as might be.

The last article was repealed, by the Assembly, immediately after its passage—but on the request of Congress to borrow said £1,800 hard money, or specie, for the use of the northern army, on the engagement to replace said sum in continental bills, &c.; said Assembly resolved, that the Treasurer of the colony should procure, in addition to what he had in colony stock on hand, and could be conveniently spared to make the sum of £1,800 lawful money in specie, and to forward the same to the pay master, or receiver of the continental army for the northern army, and take his receipt therefor, and deliver it to the Governor to be laid before Congress, to be replaced in the treasury of the colony.

Col. Selah Hart was appointed a committee, in addition to those before appointed in May, 1775, to provide such stores of lead as they should judge, for the use of the colony; and to contract for and take lead ore that should be raised out of the mine of Matthew Hart, in Farmington, and to dig and raise ore in said mine, if profitable, and necessary for the colony.

The committee of the pay table of the colony was directed to draw on the Treasurer in favor of Col. Joshua Porter, of Salisbury, overseer of the cannon foundry at the furnace, in said town, for £800 in continental or colony bills, and account for the improvement thereof in the service aforesaid.

Thaddeus Burr, Esq., was directed to call upon the post masters from Hartford to Greenwich, on the road to New York, and receive their accounts of the sums of money by them received for postage of letters between the 15th of June and the 15th day of November, 1775, and receive the balance due, and render his account to the Treasurer of the colony.

The Legislature having been informed that Capt. Hezekiah Brown, of the 12th military company, in the 10th regiment, in the colony, under the command of Col. James Wadsworth, had refused to obey certain orders given him by Jonathan Baldwin, lieutenant colonel of said regiment, to detach men for the service. The Assembly ordered a precept to be issued by the Secretary of the colony, immediately to arrest him, and him have before the Assembly, to answer to the information; and to summon said Baldwin, and other proper evidence to



appear. And on a full hearing, the Assembly ordered that Capt. Brown should be cashiered, and rendered incapable of holding or sustaining any further military office in the colony.

Col. Thomas Fitch, Ebenezer Hinman, Rufus Lathrop, Samuel Bishop, Samuel Selden, Joseph Platt Cook, Experience Storrs, and P. B. Bradley, Esq's., were appointed a committee to audit all colony accounts, and report to the Assembly.

Henry Champion and Fisher Gay, were appointed colonels.

Dyer Throop, Obadiah Hosford, and Selah Hart, were appointed lieutenant colonels.

Jabez Chapman, Jeremiah Mason, and Seth Smith, were appointed majors of militia.

Seth Adams, of Wilbraham, Nathaniel Jenison, of Rutland, of Massachusetts Bay, Aaron Whitney, of Northfield, in Massachusetts Bay, Jonathan Judd, of Southampton, in said province, John Kirtland, of Norwich, in the county of Hampshire, were allowed by the Assembly to export certain articles purchased before the passing and continuance of the embargo.

Amariah Plumb, a soldier in Col. Hinman's regiment, enlisted in 1775, who was at the siege of St. John's, in Canada, and was wounded by breaking his thigh bone by a musket ball, and fell into the hands of the enemy; the Assembly ordered to be paid to him, for his misfortune, £25 lawful money.

Samuel Lord and William Shipman, of Saybrook, had manufactured a quantity of salt petre for the use of the colony, which had been destroyed by fire; for which loss the Assembly allowed them £60. License was granted to erect a powder mill in Stratford.

Peter Goodrich, of Middletown, on the 7th of September, 1775, had provided fifty-four hundred and a quarter of a hundred of bread, by special order, for the use of the colony, to supply the brig Minerva, at eighteen shillings per hundred, and thirty tierces to stow it in, at two shillings and six pence each, being £53 : 12, which was destroyed by the burning of his house which contained it. He was allowed by said Assembly £53 : 12.

Isaac Bostwick, of New Milford, who was a captain in Col. Webb's regiment, received twenty-three stands of arms, which were used in the public service, and returned to the selectmen of Kent, Salisbury, and Canaan, and afterwards, without his knowledge, re-delivered to soldiers that marched against Quebec, without giving a receipt for them; the Legislature ordered full wages paid said Bostwick, by his giving his bond for the return or payment of said arms, with proper conditions. License was given by the Legislature, to David Griffin, John Williams, and John Knickerbocker, of Salisbury, to erect a powder mill in that town.

Adonijah Strong, Esq., of Salisbury, on the 31st day of January, 1776, was, by the Governor and Council of Safety, appointed to make provision for such necessaries as were directed for the march of the regiment then raised, under the command of Col. Burrall, as far as Albany; which trust said Strong performed, and expended large sums of money over and above what he had received; he applied to Gen. Schuyler for the payment of such sums as he had advanced of his own funds, which was refused by Gen. Schuyler. The Legislature examined said Strong's vouchers, and found that he, as commissary, had expended £491 : 15 : 11, in providing for and marching Col. Burrall's regiment, and one

company of matross, to Albany; and that he had received £280 : 19; and there was then due said Strong, £210 : 16 : 11, which was ordered to be paid out of the colony treasury.

Edward Tiley, of New Haven, who was a lieutenant under Capt. James Arnold, in a regiment raised in this colony in 1775, under Maj. Gen. Wooster, while in the service of the colonies, expended money for the furtherance of said service; and that on the 19th day of September, 1775, he was taken prisoner by Capt. Vandeput, while on business ordered by Gen. Wooster, and so detained until the 14th day of April, 1776, and he advanced money for his own subsistence while a prisoner, and his wages unpaid; for which £32 : 13 : 6, was ordered by the Assembly, to be paid said Tiley.

George Cooley was allowed by the Assembly £4, lawful money, for taking care of (his son) a sick soldier.

James Law, of Lebanon, who was a soldier in the colony in the year 1775, and in the army near Boston, was drawn off and engaged in the battle on Bunker Hill, the 17th of June, where he lost his right arm, broken by a shot from the ministerial troops; he was 22 years of age, and a joiner by trade. Upon his memorial for aid, the Assembly ordered the Treasurer to pay to said Law £50, in current bills of credit, to assist him in his disabled and distressed situation.

Joseph Mace, of Stafford, was confined in Newgate, for altering the bills of the Continental Congress.

John Sebastian Stephany asked of the Assembly a reasonable rent, for the lead mine in Middletown, while the colony had or should work it; which was directed to be paid, under the care of the committee appointed by the Assembly, taking into consideration the expense of labor and value of the lead manufactured.

Samuel Dewey, of Hebron, shewed to the Assembly, that after the 15th day of May, 1775, to May, 1776, he had made forty-six gun barrels, and twenty-one bayonets, and that they were all in the public service, and the premium of three shillings and six pence on each gun so made, amounting to £8 : 1, lawful money, was ordered and paid him.

Amos Parmaly, of Litchfield, was allowed by the Assembly £14 : 12 : 1, lawful money, for nursing his sick son John, who was a soldier in Maj. Welch's company, in Gen. Wooster's regiment, in the northern department, in 1775.

Lydia Crane, of Wethersfield, stated to the Assembly, that she had three sons, all enlisted in the service of their country; that the eldest died in the camp; the second in the continental service; and that the third, after having risked his life in the Bunker Hill engagement,—on the 1st of December, 1775, supposed the time for which he had enlisted had expired, started for home, and had travelled about twenty miles, when he was ordered by his captain to return; that when he had returned four miles, he was taken with a delirium which caused him to stroll, and soon died. The said Lydia petitioned said Assembly to pay his wages to her, being £5 : 15 : 2, which was ordered to be paid accordingly.

J. Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Jr. were allowed £30, lawful money, premium, for one thousand pounds of powder manufactured by them, at their powder mill in Windham.

John Jenkins, of Westmoreland, in the county of Litchfield, represented to the Assembly, that the inhabitants of said town were desirous to erect a powder mill in that place, as they were more than one hundred miles distant from any

erected in the colony of Connecticut. Liberty was granted to (the then) selectmen of said town, to erect a powder mill in said Westmoreland.

Ozias Bingham, of Norfolk, stated to the Assembly, that he served faithfully as a soldier at the northern campaign, in 1775 ; and that on the 9th day of January, of the same year, he was arrested on an execution, and committed to gaol in Litchfield, by Abraham Kellogg, but wishing to serve his country, he had again enlisted into the continental army, in Capt. Austin's company. The Legislature ordered him to be released by his executing his note on interest for the debt and all costs, payable the 1st of February, 1777, and joining his company forthwith when released.

Artemas Johnson, of Branford, a soldier in Capt. Douglass' company, in Gen. Wooster's regiment, in the northern campaign, in 1775, at an Isle in Canada, received a wound in his arm, which caused amputation necessary ; and asked relief in the premises, of the Assembly. The Assembly ordered the Treasurer to pay said Johnson the sum of £60, lawful money, to aid him in his misfortune.

John Watson, of Canaan, a captain of the 9th company, 4th regiment, raised in said colony in the year 1775, stated to the Assembly, that while he was in the northern army, at the siege of St. John's, he was wounded by a musket ball, which entered his body about three inches the left side of his back bone, and passed through his right side, which so cut the cords and broke the bone of his back, that he was disabled for all labor ; therefore asked said Assembly for relief in the premises. And said Assembly ordered the Treasurer to pay said Watson the sum of £60, lawful money.

Lawrence Sullivan, of Wethersfield, shewed the Assembly, that on the 17th of June, 1775, he was made a prisoner of war, and so detained until the following 24th of February ; that he had not received his wages after the 10th day of December, 1775 ; and prayed for his wages and pay for his time while he was held a prisoner. The Assembly ordered his wages paid him, but no extra pay for the time he was held a prisoner of war.

Mary Savage, of Middletown, stated that her husband, Abijah Savage, was taken a prisoner of war, at Quebec, on the 31st day of December, 1775, and was a lieutenant in the colony service ; and asked the Assembly for the wages due her husband, which were ordered to be paid to her.

Adam Babcock, Isaac Doolittle, and Jeremiah Atwater were licensed to erect a powder mill at New Haven.

Thomas Gould, Amos Rose, Thomas Gillett, Thomas Jerome, and Joseph Stocking, enlisted as soldiers in the 6th company, 2d regiment, under the command of Capt. N. Hooker, in the public service, in May, 1775, and served in the army at Roxbury until the 1st day of December, in said year ; at which time they supposed the time for which they had enlisted had expired, and without liberty from their officers, returned home. They asked of the Assembly full payment of their wages, which was ordered them.

Matthew Griswold, &c., a committee in the case of Capt. Mott, reported, not sufficient ground for prosecution.

At the close of this session, the following proclamation was made and recorded, viz :—

Whereas this Assembly, in their present session, have made many preparations for defence against the increasing hostilities and efforts of our unnatural enemies ; yet considering the alarming situation of the united colonies being threatened

with the whole force of Great Britain united, with all such foreign mercenaries as they are able to engage to assist the executors of their causeless vengeance on these devoted colonies, and to burn and destroy our sea port towns, and to spread rapine, murders, and destruction through the whole ; in this situation our utmost efforts cannot be too much, and it is the duty of every individual to contribute all in his power to serve and defend our most important cause :—Therefore, the Assembly do most earnestly recommend it, to all persons, of every rank and denomination, to furnish themselves with all possible expedition, with good sufficient fire arms, and other warlike accoutrements, and with bullets sufficient and fit for their guns ; and especially that all able bodied men, who are not of the standing militia, and such as have been dismissed from common military exercise, form themselves into companies, choose their officers according to the number of such who can convene together, and equip themselves so as to be in readiness for mutual defence against our common enemy. That all the field officers put themselves in readiness to conduct and lead forth their respective corps, on the most sudden call, and in the mean time use their utmost endeavors and care, with the assistance of the commissioned officers in their respective regiments to encourage military skill, and every warlike preparation, and to see that all defective arms be immediately repaired. That the committee appointed to procure fire arms to be made in this colony, use their utmost diligence to promote the same, and purchase in, all good arms for sale, except such as any person hath for his own proper use. The events of this war may prove most decisive to these colonies, and that all human care, efforts, and exertions are but fruitless attempts for our security and defence, and will prove vain and abortive, unless attended with the blessing of Heaven, which we have no reason to expect, but on a sincere repentance and reformation :—Wherefore in this day of darkness and threatening calamity, it is most earnestly recommended to, and pressed upon all persons of every rank and denomination in this colony, to promote and cultivate charity and benevolence one towards another ; to abstain from every species of extortion and oppression ; sincerely to repent and break off from every sin, folly, and vice ; to live together in peace, love, and harmony among themselves ; to look up with earnest importunity to Heaven for help, success, salvation, and deliverance ; and with careful attention to the use of means, hope, and trust in the Lord of Hosts, who presides over universal nature ; judges and governs all, and we not fear or be dismayed at all the attempts or numerous hosts with which we are threatened. It is ordered that the foregoing be printed, and be read, and published in all the religious societies in this colony.

The Assembly adjourned on the 8th day of June, 1776.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

## SPECIAL SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, holden at Hartford, by special order of the Governor on the 14th day of June, 1776.

HON. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Richard Law and William Williams, Esq's., were added to the Board of Assistants. Eight Assistants present.

An act repealing an act of the colony "entitled an act to prevent injustice by the bills of credit of the neighboring colonies" (then) passing in Connecticut, was passed.

An act was passed, in addition to a former act, for restraining and punishing all persons inimical to the liberties of the colony, and of the united colonies; in which it was provided, that whenever any person should be possessed of any goods or effects of any person who had or should join the ministerial army or navy, acting against America, or screen themselves under them, or had aided or assisted in carrying into execution the ministerial measures, that it should be the duty of the selectmen of every such town where such person might dwell, who should be possessed of such goods, to exhibit a representation of them, to any Assistant in the county; who was directed to issue a warrant, requiring the officer to seize such goods, and make return of the warrant to the next county court; which court was authorized to enquire into the facts in the case; and if said facts should be found true, to render judgment that such goods should be sold for the use of the colony, to be paid to the Treasurer, and his receipt lodged with the Secretary of the colony.

It was further enacted, that if any person should be indebted to any person inimical as aforesaid, or accountable as bailiff and receiver; the selectmen of the town where said debtor or factor or trustee dwelt, were authorized to factorize said debtors, &c., for the benefit of the colony; stating the facts as they should exist, and the county court render judgment for such sum as should be due said inimical person, and the execution collected and paid to the Treasurer of the colony. And that all recoveries against such debtors should be effectual, and that all contracts made by such debtors, with such inimical persons should have their true construction. It was ordered that the officer should leave twelve days before the sitting of the court to which it should be returnable, a copy of said warrant, with such debtor, factor, justice, &c., which service effectually secured such debt, goods, &c.; conditioned that said debtor was authorized to pay said debt into the hands of the selectmen without suit, and give the debtor a discharge on said debt; which by said act was made good and effectual in law to secure such debtor, &c.; for which service the selectmen were to receive a reasonable compensation, taxed by the county court, and pay over

such moneys to the colony Treasurer ; and that an order should be drawn by the county clerk, on the Treasurer, for the payment of the same.

An embargo was laid by the Assembly, not to export out of the colony, by water, the following articles, viz. : wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork, beef, live cattle, peas, beans, butter, cheese, bread, flour, and every kind of meal ; and that no pork should be exported by land or water, except necessary stores for vessels bound to sea. And the Governor was requested to issue his proclamation, laying such embargo, and prohibiting such exportations ; which embargo was ordered to be continued in force until the rising of the Assembly, in October, 1776. Provided that the Governor should be authorized to grant permits for the exportation of live cattle and provisions, as he should judge necessary for the public service ; provided further, that the Governor, with the advice of the Council, should be empowered to discontinue the embargo, in whole or part, at any time.

An act to raise two battalions to join the continental army, in Canada, was passed.

The Assembly received a requisition from the Continental Congress, for troops to reinforce the continental army in different departments. It was therefore enacted, that two battalions of the inhabitants of the colony should be immediately raised, by voluntary enlistment, to join the continental army in the northern department ; each battalion to consist of 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, and eight companies, with 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, and 79 privates to each company ; and a staff to consist of 1 chaplain to said two battalions, and 1 adjutant, 1 quarter master, 1 surgeon, and 1 surgeon's mate, to each battalion ; to be holden in said service until the 1st day of December, 1776. A premium of £6 lawful money was enacted to be paid to each able bodied man to enlist into said service, and sufficiently clothe himself therefor ; and if he should supply himself with a good blanket, knapsack, gun, bayonet, and cartouch box to the acceptance of his captain, that he should receive a further premium of £1 : 2 lawful money therefor—and at the same rate for such of said articles as he should provide himself with, as was allowed by the Assembly to the troops raised for the defence of the colony in April, 1775. While in service, to be under the same general command, laws, regulations, and entitled to the same pay, wages, privileges, and allowances as continental troops ; and should receive one months pay in advance before he should march out of the colony.

The Legislature having received a further requisition from Congress, for troops to reinforce the continental army, passed an act for raising seven battalions, to join the continental army in New York. In which it was provided, that seven battalions, inclusive of the regiment or battalion voted to be raised for the general service in May, 1776, should be raised by voluntary enlistment, to march direct to New York, and there join the continental army. That each battalion should consist of 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, and eight companies, with 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, and 79 privates to each company. A staff of 1 chaplain, 1 adjutant, 1 quarter master, 1 surgeon, and 1 surgeon's mate, to each battalion, and to be holden in service until the 25th day of December, 1776, unless they should be sooner discharged. And that each able bodied enlisted soldier, for the term aforesaid, who should sufficiently clothe himself therefor, should receive a

premium of £3 lawful money ; and that every such man so enlisted, who should provide himself a good blanket, knapsack, gun, bayonet, and cartouch box, to the captain's acceptance, should receive a further premium of £1 : 2 money therefor, (and at the same rate as in the act aforesaid). And that those who had enlisted as minute men, and would lay claim to the 40 shillings given them as an encouragement to furnish themselves, and stand ready as minute men, and should enlist into the service established by this act, should be entitled to a further sum of £2 : 2 if they furnished and equipped themselves, and should be on an equal footing with the other troops raised by this act, for the same service ; that each sargeant should receive 48 shillings ; each corporal, 44 ; each drummer and fifer, 44 shillings ; and each private, 40 shillings per calendar month, for wages during said service. And if any guns, &c., by accident should be lost, the provider of said gun, &c., to be paid its just value. That an account should be taken of all arms, &c., appraised, &c. ; that each man, upon enlistment, should receive 6 pence a day for billeting money, until he should march, and then should receive one penny per mile, in lieu of rations, for travelling expenses, and one days pay for every 20 miles between home and the general rendezvous, going and returning. It was further provided, that 40 shillings, as a further premium should be given to each who should so enlist into the continental regiment, voted to be raised in May, 1776, and destined to Boston, over and above all other encouragements offered. And all said troops, while in service, were to be subject to the same general command, law, and regulations, and entitled to the same pay, wages, privileges, and allowances as the continental troops were. And it was further enacted, that the act entitled "an act for raising and equipping a body of minute men, to be hold in readiness for the better defence of the colony, &c., made and passed in May, 1776," so far as it respected the raising of such minute men pursuant to said act, was repealed.

As it became now necessary to provide the troops about to be raised by the two preceding acts, with fire arms, accoutrements, &c., for immediate actual service ; the legislature appointed Capt. Jeremiah Wadsworth, and Col. Jonathan Fitch, and empowered them forthwith to furnish a sufficient number of tin kettles (if they could be procured in the colony,) for the use of the two battalions to be raised and destined to the northern department, and to be delivered to the care of the commissary, and forwarded with the baggage of said battalions to the north. And if tin could not be procured, they were directed to purchase suitable iron hollow ware, for the use of the battalions then raising and destined to New York, and forward the same to the commissary general at New York, by the cheapest and most convenient conveyance, and take a receipt of the carrier.

The committee appointed to procure fire arms in the several counties, were directed to make a division of the whole of said arms procured amongst the several towns in the colony, according to their lists, and certify the number of guns and bayonets allotted to each, and where they were to be found, and give orders to receive them ; and the selectmen as aforesaid were ordered to deliver such arms to the chief officers of the troops then about to be raised in such towns, and take their receipts therefor, and lodge with the treasurers of the towns. And said arms, when returned, also lodged with said treasurers, and by them kept in constant repair, at the cost of the towns, and fully to equip said troops.



It was also provided, that the fire arms taken from persons belonging to the colony, who should be enemies to the country, and in the hands of the committee of inspection or others, should be marked with the initials of the owner's name, and appraised by two indifferent men, under oath, and an account taken by the committee, and lodged with the treasurers of said towns where said owners should reside, and be repaired at the expense of the colony ; and when repaired, delivered to the chief officers of the companies then raising in said towns where said arms were owned, and take receipts therefor, which receipts, marks, prices of arms, names of owners, &c. were directed to be recorded in the towns where said owners lived, when said arms should be taken, and an account of the repairs of said arms to be laid before the committee of pay table for adjustment, and orders on the Treasurer for payment. And it was ordered, that when said guns were returned, they should be lodged with the clerk of the committee of inspection, and there kept until further orders from said committee, or the Assembly. And in case of loss of such arms of inimical persons, the facts were to be laid before said Assembly, for their orders thereon.

It was further ordered, that the selectmen of the several towns, should purchase or hire arms to furnish such soldiers of any of the battalions aforesaid, as could not furnish themselves, or be furnished in any of the ways before provided ; and allow the owner of each gun hired, six shillings, and the owner of each bayonet, belt, and cartouch box so hired, four shillings ; and if by accident lost, the owner thereof to be paid for the same, according to the appraisal ; a particular account of which arms, &c. were to be taken, and the account laid before the committee of pay table, who were directed to give orders on the Treasurer of the colony for payment, and costs thereof, and expense of purchasing and hiring said arms, and expense of repairs. And it was provided, that if a sufficient number of arms could not be obtained, in the manners before provided, such as should be wanted to make up the deficiency, should be impressed from householders, and others not in the militia rolls, by warrants for that purpose from the civil authority ; and such guns so impressed to be receipted, and appraised, and in case of loss, to be paid for as aforesaid. It was also provided, that the captain of each company should take a particular account of all arms used in his company, distinguishing colony arms from such as the soldiers should provide, such as were hired, such as were purchased, such as were impressed, and such as belonged to inimical persons ; and with the prices and repairs, transmit said account to the Governor, that he might know the state of said arms.

The Assembly appointed David Waterbury, Jr., Esq., brigadier general of the battalions of militia ordered raised to reinforce the continental army in Canada.

James Wadsworth, Jr., Esq., brigadier general of the battalions of militia raised to reinforce the continental army at New York.

Gold S. Silliman, John Douglass, Fisher Gay, John Chester, William Douglass, Comfort Sage, Heman Swift, and Samuel Selden, Esq's., were appointed colonels of the battalions ordered to be raised in the colony.

Solomon Wells, John Chandler, Selah Hart, Jonathan Lattimer, William Worthington, James Arnold, William Danielson, and Josiah Starr, Esq's., were appointed lieutenant colonels of the battalions of foot, to be raised in the colony.



Matthew Mead, of Norwalk, John Ripley Buell, Stilworthy Waters, Phineas Porter, John Sumner, Giles Russell, and Benadam Gallop, Esq's., were appointed majors of the battalions of foot to be raised in the colony.

Col. Erastus Wolcott was appointed colonel of the regiment ordered in May last, to be raised and stationed at or near New London, instead of Col. David Waterbury, Jr., promoted.

Samuel Mott, Esq., was appointed lieutenant colonel of the regiment ordered to be raised in May last, and stationed at or near New London, instead of Comfort Sage, Esq., promoted.

The Assembly appointed the persons hereinafter named, to the respective offices annexed to each, to take the command of the two battalions ordered by the Assembly to be raised to join the continental army in the northern department; and the Governor was desired and empowered to give commissions according to the forms provided for each respective officer, and warrants for such as belonged to the staff, viz.:

#### FIRST BATTALION.

John Douglass, colonel; William Worthington, lieutenant colonel; John Sumner, major.

1st company—Aaron Stevens, captain; Isaac Turner, 1st lieutenant; Moses Dudley, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Hilyard, ensign.

2d company—John Harman, Jr., captain; Benjamin Harman, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel Pomeroy, 2d lieutenant; Joel Adams, ensign.

3d company—Ichabod Norton, captain; Amos Barnes, 1st lieutenant; Jabez Brooks, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Stoddard, ensign.

4th company—Ozias Pettibone, captain; George Griswold, 1st lieutenant; Uriel Holmes, 2d lieutenant; Simon Gaynes, ensign.

5th company—Elijah Robinson, captain; David McClure, 1st lieutenant; Eliphalet Curtiss, 2d lieutenant; Alexander King, ensign.

6th company—Josiah Baldwin, captain; Simeon Allen, 1st lieutenant; Wm. Caulkins, 2d lieutenant; Stephen Billings, Jr., ensign.

7th company—Vine Eldarkin, captain; William Tressell, 1st lieutenant; Abner Robinson, 2d lieutenant; Lemuel Grosvenor, ensign.

8th company—Elijah Sharp, captain; Samuel Robinson, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Joseph Burgess, 2d lieutenant; Simeon House, ensign.

#### SECOND BATTALION.

Heman Swift, colonel; Joseph Starr, lieutenant colonel; Stilworthy Waters, major.

1st company—Abijah Rowley, captain; Samuel Tyler, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Samuel Hazard, 2d lieutenant; Phineas Grover, ensign.

2d company—Thaddeus Lacy, captain; James Reynolds, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Hurd, 2d lieutenant; Abraham Post, ensign.

3d company—Stephen Hall, captain; Jehiel Meigs, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer Fowler, Jr., 2d lieutenant; David Dudley, 3d, ensign.

4th company—Stephen Matthews, captain; Edward Tiley, 1st lieutenant; Amos Hecock, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Gideon Tucker, ensign.

5th company—Elijah Beach, captain; Benjamin Nichols, 1st lieutenant; John Carter, 2d lieutenant; James Bebee, Jr., ensign.

6th company—Jonas Prentice, captain ; Samuel Camp, 1st lieutenant ; Devan Berry, 2d lieutenant ; Ambrose Baldwin, ensign.

7th company—Jabez Botsford, captain ; John Trowbridge, Jr., 1st lieutenant ; Shadrack Hubbell, 2d lieutenant ; Clement Botsford, ensign.

8th company—Ebenezer Couch, captain ; John Ransom, Jr., 1st lieutenant ; John Bliss, 2d lieutenant ; Jedediah Durkee, ensign.

The Assembly appointed the persons, hereafter named, to the respective offices herein mentioned, to take the command of the six battalions ordered by the Assembly to be raised and marched directly to New York, and there join the continental army ; and the Governor was ordered to give commissions according to the (then) late form provided for each officer, and to give warrants to the staff.

#### FIRST BATTALION.

Gold Sellick Silliman, Esq., colonel ; John Chandler, Esq., lieutenant colonel ; Matthew Mead, Esq., major.

1st company—George Benjamin, captain ; Wakeman Burr, 1st lieutenant ; Josiah Lacy, 2d lieutenant ; Daniel Duncan, ensign.

2d company—Zalmon Read, captain ; Ezekiel Sanford, 1st lieutenant ; Ebenezer Banks, Jr., 2d lieutenant ; Joshua Adams, ensign.

3d company—William Gaylord Hubbel, captain ; Peter Penfield, 1st lieutenant ; Seth Abbott, 2d lieutenant ; Benjamin Hecox, ensign.

4th company—Abraham Mead, captain ; Simon Ingersoll, 1st lieutenant ; Henry Warren, 2d lieutenant ; Thomas Hobby, ensign.

5th company—Sylvanus Brown, captain ; Joseph Webb, Jr., 1st lieutenant ; Thaddeus Weed, 2d lieutenant ; Gideon Waterbury, ensign.

6th company—Gamaliel Northrup, Jr., captain ; James Betts, 1st lieutenant ; John St. John, 2d lieutenant ; Ebenezer Olmsted, ensign.

7th company—Reuben Bostwick, captain ; Isaac DeForest, 1st lieutenant ; Israel Baldwin, 2d lieutenant ; Lazarus Ruggles, ensign.

8th company—Nathan Hurd, captain ; Elisha Brace, 1st lieutenant ; Noah Judson, 2d lieutenant ; Elisha Clark, ensign.

#### SECOND BATTALION.

Fisher Gay, Esq., colonel ; Selah Hart, Esq., lieutenant colonel ; Benadum Gallop, Esq., major.

1st company—Gad Stanly, captain ; Ambrose Sloper, 1st lieutenant ; John Allen, 2d lieutenant ; Titus Bunnell, ensign.

2d company—Jonah Gillett, Jr., captain ; Obed Holcomb, 1st lieutenant ; Phineas Drake, 2d lieutenant ; Samuel Wing, ensign.

3d company—Edward Rodgers, captain ; Nathaniel Hamlin, 1st lieutenant ; Hezekiah Andrews, 2d lieutenant ; Joel Hinman, ensign.

4th company—Stephen Goodwin, captain ; Giles Gaylord, 1st lieutenant ; Stephen Scovil, 2d lieutenant ; Jesse Judd, ensign.

5th company—Abraham Bradley, captain ; Tilly Blakely, 1st lieutenant ; Thomas Catlin, 2d lieutenant ; James Morris, Jr., ensign.

6th company—Simon Wolcott, captain ; John Charter, 1st lieutenant ; Hezekiah Welles, 2d lieutenant ; Aaron Eaton, ensign.

7th company—Joseph Mosely, captain; Thomas Hollister, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Matthew Buell, 2d lieutenant; Reuben Phelps, ensign.

8th company—Epaphras Loomis, captain; John Rockwell, 1st lieutenant; Abner Willson, 2d lieutenant; Charles Goodwin, ensign.

### THIRD BATTALION.

Comfort Sage, Esq., colonel; William Daniels, lieutenant colonel; Elias Buell, major.

1st company—James Clark, captain; Elias Bliss, 1st lieutenant; Ebenezer West, 2d lieutenant; Jonah Palmer, major.

2d company—Hezekiah Parsons, captain; Josiah Converse, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Booth, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Chapin, ensign.

3d company—Jonathan Birge, captain; Edward Payne, 1st lieutenant; Nathaniel West, 2d lieutenant; George Hubbard, ensign.

4th company—Joseph Churchill, captain; Jacob Wetmore, 1st lieutenant; Timothy Clark, 2d lieutenant; Titus Carrier, ensign.

5th company—Edward Eells, Jr., captain; David Smith, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Cornish, 2d lieutenant; Oliver Hubbard, ensign.

6th company—Jonathan Parker, captain; Ichabod Hinkley, 1st lieutenant; Timothy Holt, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Rider, ensign.

7th company—John Green, captain; Daniel Clark, 1st lieutenant; Josiah Robbins, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Buck, ensign.

8th company—John Dixon, captain; William Edmonds, 1st lieutenant; Abraham Shepard, 2d lieutenant; John Chamberlin, ensign.

### FOURTH BATTALION.

Samuel Selden, Esq., colonel; Jonathan Lattimore, lieutenant colonel; Giles Russell, major.

1st company—John Willey, captain; Bezaleel Brainard, 1st lieutenant; Jonathan Kilbourn, 2d lieutenant; Jonah Brainard, ensign.

2d company—William Belcher, captain; Benjamin Brewster, 1st lieutenant; Isaac W. Stanton, 2d lieutenant; Asa Story, ensign.

3d company—Richard Deshon, captain; John Comstock, 2d, 1st lieutenant; Edward Hallam, 2d lieutenant; Richard Douglass, ensign.

4th company—Ebenezer Witter, Jr., captain; Elias S. Palmer, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Smith, 2d lieutenant; John Williams, 3d, ensign.

5th company—Abel Spicer, captain; Jonathan Palmer, 1st lieutenant; Park Avery, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Edward Joffery, ensign.

6th company—Joshua Huntington, captain; Ezekiel Waterman, 1st lieutenant; John Wheatly, 2d lieutenant; Charles Fanning, ensign.

7th company—Elijah Bingham, captain; Elisha Wade, 1st lieutenant; Wm. Raymond, 2d lieutenant; David Bill, ensign.

8th company—Elisha Chapman, captain; John Hart, 1st lieutenant; Job Wright, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Jones, Jr., ensign.

### FIFTH BATTALION.

William Douglass, colonel; James Arnold, lieutenant colonel; Phineas Porter, major.

1st company—Nathaniel Johnson, captain; Nathan Parson, 1st lieutenant; Ambrose Hine, 2d lieutenant; Charles Norton, ensign.

2d company—Edward Russell, captain; Samuel Baldwin, 1st lieutenant; Stephen Potter, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Shaylor, ensign.

3d company—Robert Brown, captain; Peter Johnson, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Mansfield, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Newton, ensign.

4th company—Noah Ives, captain; Jared Robinson, 1st lieutenant; Jared Hill, 2d lieutenant; John Mansfield, ensign.

5th company—Samuel Peck, Jr., captain; Jehiel Bryant, 1st lieutenant; Jesse Goodyear, 2d lieutenant; Titus Peck, ensign.

6th company—John Lewiss, Jr., captain; James Warner, 1st lieutenant; Michael Bronson, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Beach, Jr., ensign.

7th company—Nathaniel Bunnell, captain; Hawkins Hart, 1st lieutenant; Thomas Lyman, 2d lieutenant; Miles Hull, ensign.

8th company—Cornelius Higgins, captain; James Arnold, 1st lieutenant; Amos Beecher, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Scovil, ensign.

#### SIXTH BATTALION.

John Chester, Esq., colonel; Solomon Wills, lieutenant colonel; John Ripley, ensign.

1st company—Israel Seymour, captain; John Barnard, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Mattox, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Bunce, ensign.

2d company—Hezekiah Wyllys, captain; John Hurlbut, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Joseph Skinner, 2d lieutenant; Andrew Hylyer, ensign.

3d company—Chester Wells, captain; Edward Bulkley, 1st lieutenant; Benjamin Tallinadge, 2d lieutenant; James Hecox, ensign.

4th company—Benjamin Clark, captain; James Tyler, 1st lieutenant; Samuel Marcy, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Daniel Knowlton, ensign.

5th company—Stephen Lyon, captain; Josiah Childs, 1st lieutenant; John Kimball, 2d lieutenant; Richard Peabody, ensign.

6th company—Asa Bacon, captain; Abner Bacon, 1st lieutenant; Amariah Rust, 2d lieutenant; Aaron Cleveland, ensign.

7th company—Samuel Thomson, captain; Gershom Parsons, 1st lieutenant; Daniel Dunham, 2d lieutenant; Ebenezer Sessions, ensign.

8th company—John Isham, Jr., captain; Eliphalet Chamberlain, 1st lieutenant; Asaph Trumbull, 2d lieutenant; Joshua Ransom, Jr., ensign.

William Hawley was appointed 1st lieutenant, and John Blackleach, 2d lieutenant, under Capt. Elijah Abell, in a company raised in May last. Thomas Abbee, of Enfield, was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. John Harmon's company, and Nathaniel Pomeroy, Jr., of Suffield, 1st lieutenant in Capt. Abel Pease's company.

The officers' commissions appointed May session, 1776, were to be dated on the 10th day of June, 1776, and issued by the Governor. And the officers' commissions of this session were to bear date June 20th, 1776. The Governor was authorized to appoint others, and fill vacancies, if any officers appointed in the aforesaid companies should decline their appointment; and to appoint armorers for the several regiments aforesaid.

It was ordered, that the colonel of each battalion ordered to be raised, should receive of his pay master of the continental army, the first months pay of each soldier, and pay it into the colony treasury, deducting out what should be due to

each enlisted soldier from the day of his enlistment to his march; and what should be deducted, to be paid to the captains of said companies, and by them paid to the soldiers, according to the act of Assembly.

It was ordered, that the committee of pay table should order and pay to the several captains of companies, ordered raised either in May or June, 1776, the amount of the several premiums, advance pay and wages, ordered to them and their companies, to be advanced to them on their enlistment, or march out of the colony.

It was directed, that the troops then at New London, Groton, Stonington, and New Haven, and the additional troops raised to augment said troops into a regiment, should receive the same pay, wages, and allowances, &c., as troops raised by order of the Continental Congress for continental service. And that any able bodied man that had or should enlist to augment said troops into a regiment, should receive a premium of twenty shillings over and above continental allowance.

The colonels of the several regiments to be raised to join the army at New York, were permitted to ship to the place of their destination, four hogsheads of rum, two hogsheads of molasses, and two barrels of sugar, for each of their regiments.

Samuel Abbott, Hezekiah Lane, Thaddeus Burr, Jonathan Fitch, Elisha Child, and Joseph Hopkins, were appointed, in addition to a former committee, to procure fire arms.

The Legislature had reason to apprehend that there would be large demands for the article of pork, to supply the Tories that had been and were about to be raised for public service and that measures should be taken to procure a supply thereof; and that danger was apprehended that large quantities might be clandestinely purchased and conveyed to the enemy, or engrossed by individuals, which might distress both the public and the poor in the colony: the Legislature therefore appointed Jeremiah Wadsworth, of Hartford, John Deshon, of New London, J. Fitch, of New Haven, Samuel Squire, of Fairfield, David Trumbull, of Lebanon, Lynd Lord, of Litchfield, and any or either of them to purchase for the colony, all the pork within the same, at the market price, to be kept in proper stores, and disposed of for public use, as the exigences of affairs should require for the colony or the continental army, under the direction of the Assembly or the Governor and Council; and the committee of pay table were directed to draw on the Treasurer for money to pay for the same. It was also provided, that if any person should be possessed of any quantity of stores of pork more than sufficient for his own use, and should refuse to sell and deliver said pork to said committee, on his or their request and tender of the money or bills of credit therefor, at the market price, that such person so refusing should forfeit the value of all such pork so refused for the use of the colony, and to be recovered in any court proper to try the same. And either of said committee was authorized to prosecute.

The article of lead being scarce, and greatly wanted in the colony for the use of the army; it was provided, that the selectmen of all the towns in the colony, should forthwith purchase such lead weights, and all other implements of lead, all bar lead and old lead, (except sheet lead on buildings), all shot at a reasonable price, and certify the quantity by them obtained and the price paid, to the committee of pay table, who were directed to draw orders on the Treasurer for

the same—which was directed to be certified to the Governor, quantity, &c. &c. It was further provided, that in case any person refused to deliver said lead to the selectmen as aforesaid, that it was made the duty of the civil authority to issue warrants, and impress such lead for the use of the colony.

The committee appointed to procure tin kettles and iron hollow ware, for the use of the battalions of foot, were also directed to purchase two suitable brass wash kettles, for each company in said battalion, and deliver them to the commissary general.

Daniel Brainard, Dyer Throop, and Jabez Chapman were a committee, (for the purpose of fully carrying into effect the contract of Thomas Bidwell in manufacturing sulphur); to contract with all persons in whose lands sulphur could be discovered, for liberty to use the ore for a reasonable rent; and in case such persons should refuse so to contract, the Assembly authorized said Bidwell, or his agents, to enter upon their lands and dig, take, and use such ore as they found impregnated with sulphur, by paying such rent as said committee should judge just, and such writing of said committee should operate as effectual as a lease from the owner of the lands, for said Bidwell to enter and use the ore.

Maj. Nathaniel Terry was appointed, (instead of Col. Porter) to procure twenty pots and receivers for Thomas Bidwell, to manufacture sulphur.

Joseph Hopkins, Esq., Mr. Isaac Doolittle, Capt. Elisha Childs, Col. Samuel Chapman, and Capt. Henry Allyn were appointed a committee severally, or in conjunction, to search after lead mines in the colony, and directed to inform the Governor should any be discovered, that the Governor might inform the Continental Congress.

It was enacted, that £50,000 in bills of credit should be imprinted, on the credit of the colony, equal to lawful money, of denominations from 1 shilling and 6 pence to 40 shillings inclusive, of the same tenor of the former emissions of bills of credit, payable before the 1st day of January, 1782, and dated 19th day of June, 1776,—and J. Hamlin, William Pitkin, George Wyllys, Elisha Williams, B. Payne, Thomas Seymour, and Jesse Root, Esq'rs., were appointed to take charge of the printing, &c. of said bills as the act directed. A tax of seven pennies on the pound was laid on all the rateable estate and polls in the colony, to pay said bills of credit; which tax was made payable in any bills emitted by the Assembly, continental bills, or lawful money.

A report was made on the memorial of the committee of inspection of the town of Norwich, regarding the brig Nancy and her cargo, brought into Norwich in July, 1775; that the said brig and cargo was the property of Joshua Winslow, of Boston, deceased; that the said Joshua, at the time of his death, was reputed an enemy of this country; that said brig, &c., was the property of said Joshua's widow and heirs; that the widow also was an enemy of this country; that said brig went into Stonington in July, 1775, and was seized by some persons in Norwich, who sent Capt. Robert Niles to take her to Norwich, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy, then in Boston; that Capt. Niles was not then in the service of the colony; that the brig and cargo was laid up in Norwich on the 18th day of July, 1775, by the committee of correspondence and inspection in Norwich, &c. The Legislature ordered said brig and cargo to be sold, and the molasses sold to householders, or to such persons as would dispose of it to householders, and of the avails of said sale, to pay the demand of Dodge and company, of Boston, and the remainder to pay to the

Treasurer of the colony, and to pay any other persons who should satisfy the Assembly they had any lawful title to the same.

Amos Barnes, Dan Hill, and James Stoddard, three of the committee of inspection in Farmington, informed the Assembly, that Thomas Brooks, of said town, was a lieutenant of the 12th company and 15th regiment; and that he had openly declared before said committee that he was not satisfied that the colonies could be justified in their measures; that he refused to join them against Great Britain, or the King. The Legislature appointed Col. John Pitkin, and Col. Thomas Belden, a committee to examine the case of said Brooks, and report to said Assembly.

The Governor was authorized to employ a suitable person for a post rider, from Hartford to Albany, or farther north, as he should think necessary, to carry and bring letters and intelligence for the year then ensuing, or until the Assembly, or Governor and Committee of Safety should otherwise order.

Gold S. Silliman, Esq., was appointed colonel of the regiment of horse, in the colony, established in May, 1776. Thomas Seymour, Esq., lieutenant colonel, and William Hart, major of said regiment of horse.

William Hillhouse, major of the 2d regiment of horse.

Daniel Starr, Esq., major of the 3d regiment of horse.

Ebenezer Backus, major of the 4th regiment of horse.

Elisha Sheldon, major of the 5th regiment of horse established as aforesaid.

Timothy Scranton asked the Assembly for compensation for nursing his sick son, who was a soldier under Col. Ward, with the wages of said soldier. The Assembly ordered said account adjusted and paid.

Gershom Clark, of Lebanon, claimed that he was a soldier in Gen. Putnam's regiment, and that at the battle at Bunker Hill, on the 17th of June, 1775, he received a shot through his body, by which he was dangerously wounded, and was unable to labor and support himself and family; and therefore, asked aid of the Assembly. The Assembly ordered to be paid to said Clark the sum of £30 out of the treasury of the colony.

Grace Meigs, (the wife of R. J. Meigs, a major in the service,) who was detained a prisoner of war at Quebec, from the 1st of September, 1775, to the 1st of June, 1776; asked said Assembly to pay to her, her husband's wages; which said Assembly ordered to be paid.

The Legislature was adjourned, until the Governor should see cause again to convene it.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

## OCTOBER SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut, in New England, in America, holden at New Haven, October 10th, and adjourned the 7th day of November, A. D. 1776.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Eight Assistants (only) present.

The first act of the Assembly was to pass "The Declaration of Independence," by Connecticut. (See the 95th page of this work.)

The first law enacted at this session, was an act for the punishment of high treason against the State.

It was enacted, that if any person or persons belonging to or residing in the State, and under the protection of its laws, should levy war against the State, or knowingly aid or assist enemies at open war against the State, or United States of America, by joining their armies, by enlisting, or procuring others to enlist for that purpose; or furnishing such enemies with arms, ammunition, provisions, or any articles for their aid or comfort; or carrying on a treacherous correspondence with them; or be any way concerned in forming any combination, plots, or conspiracy, for betraying the State, or United States into the hands or power of any foreign enemy; or give or send any intelligence to the enemies of the State for that purpose; every person so offending, and being thereof convicted, should suffer *death*.

It was also enacted, that if any person should attempt to join the enemies of the State, or United States, or use an influence to persuade any person to aid, comfort, or assist them in any manner whatsoever, or have knowledge of any person endeavoring or using influence, and conceal the same, that he should be punished by *fine*, according to the nature of the offence, and *imprisoned*, at the discretion of the superior court, in any gaol in the State, not exceeding ten years.

An act was passed for prescribing and enjoining an oath of fidelity to the State; in which it was provided, that, as the King of Great Britain had abdicated the government of the United States, by placing them out of his protection, and unjustly levying war against them; and as the States had declared their independence and sovereignty, which had been approved by this State:—The Legislature, for the security of the State, resolved, that an oath of fidelity should be taken by the *freemen* and *officers* thereof, to truly and faithfully adhere to and maintain the government established in the State, by the people, according to the laws of the State; and that each believed in his conscience, that the King of Great Britain neither had, nor of right ought to have any authority in or over



the State, and that they did not hold themselves bound to yield any allegiance to the King, and that they would, to the utmost of their power, maintain and defend the freedom, independence, and privileges of the State, against all open enemies or traitorous conspiracies; and that no person should be authorized to execute any office, after the 1st day of January, 1777, until he had taken the oath of fidelity; that no freeman should vote for any officer of government, until he had taken said oath, and his name enrolled in the records of the town where sworn.

A law was enacted, that the bills of credit, emitted and made current by the General Assembly of Connecticut, and such as had been issued by the United States, should be a *legal tender* as money, in all payments within the State. At the same time it was provided, that if any person within the State, should attempt to depreciate, or undervalue the bills of credit aforesaid, by offering, demanding, or receiving more in said bills, in exchange for Spanish milled dollars, or other coins of gold or silver or bullion, than the nominal value thereof; or receiving directly or indirectly, a greater sum in bills for houses, lands, goods, or other commodities, than the same could be purchased for in gold or silver; or whoever should sell or offer for sale house, land, &c. for hard money, and should refuse to sell the same for any kind of bills; every person so offending, forfeited the full value of the money so exchanged, or the houses, &c. so sold, one half to the public treasury of the State, and the other half to the person who should prosecute.

As it was of the utmost importance, not only to the State, but equally so to all the States, and the commerce of the country, that entire confidence should be kept up in the bills of credit emitted, or that should be issued by order of the Continental Congress, as well as the bills or notes of the continental loan offices. And as counterfeiting was fast becoming more and more frequent, a law was enacted, that whoever forged or altered any bills of credit emitted by Congress, or notes or bills issued from any of the continental loan offices established in any of the United States, engrave plates or instruments to be used for such purposes, &c. should be punished by the same pains and penalties provided for the crime of counterfeiting the bills of credit of this and the other States.

A law was enacted, empowering the civil authority, selectmen, and committee of inspection of the several towns in the State, to confine within certain limits or to remove all inimical persons within their respective towns, if on examination they should judge them inimical or dangerous to the United States, at the cost of the offenders. The Governor and Council of Safety were to determine the places of confinement of such inimical persons as should be removed as aforesaid, and give orders for their government and support, and order a guard, if necessary, to secure them, and cost that might arise for officer's fees, &c., on such confinement and removal was taxed by any of said civil authority, and execution granted for the same. And it was provided, that the said committee appointed to take charge of prisoners were authorized to call out guards, by liberty obtained of the civil authority and selectmen in any town in the State.

The Assembly appointed an inspector of gun powder, to examine and brand all that was made for the State; the fees of which office was one-eighth part of a dollar for each 100 pounds he should examine. All powder offered for sale, made in any of the United States, not inspected, was forfeited.

It having been found that much of the salt petre manufactured in the colony, was impure, and unfit for making good gun powder; therefore the Assembly appointed an inspector of salt-petre for each powder mill in the State, to be sworn carefully to inspect all salt petre brought to the respective mills, before any premiums should be paid thereon.

It was a subject of great complaint in the State, that in this time of public distress and struggle, many individuals endeavored to engross the necessities of life that were immediately required for the comfort and support of the armies, and extortion and oppression arose upon the poor and the soldiery; to prevent which, the Assembly ordered, that the Governor, with the advice of his Committee of Safety, were empowered, that whenever and whatever article of necessary support for the army should be wanted, to impress and seize the same out of the hands of any engrosser, to have the property appraised by two indifferent men under oath, and pay such price to the owner or engrosser.

The article of salt was scarce in the State, and the previous bounty offered by the Assembly for its manufacture, not having been a sufficient inducement to supply the wants of the inhabitants; a bounty of one shilling per bushel was offered for any quantity manufactured in the State, less than five hundred bushels, before the 1st day of November, 1777.

The Governor and Council of Safety were empowered for the benefit of the public, at their discretion, to lay any further embargo upon the exportation of swine, or any other article, out of the State, in the recess of the General Assembly.

As the Continental Congress had recommended that a loan office should be established in each of the States; and that a commissioner to superintend such office should be appointed in each State. The Legislature judging that such loan office might aid in the monitary concerns in the State, approved of the measure—and therefore appointed John Lawrence, Esq., of Hartford, commissioner, to superintend such loan office as Congress should establish in this State.

Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, Eliphalet Dyer, Oliver Wolcott, Richard Law, and William Williams, Esq's., were appointed delegates to Congress. And said delegates were instructed that only three of them should attend at one time at the public expense; that they were to attend by turns, and agree between themselves as to time and convenience for each.

Col. Thomas Seymour was appointed a member of the Council of Safety, in the place of Richard Law, Esq., excused.

Jesse Root, Esq., was appointed one of the committee of pay table.

A bounty of 1 shilling per pound was ordered to be paid for all salt petre and nitre that should be manufactured, according to previous laws, from the 1st of January, 1777, and before the 1st of June, 1777.

An embargo was forthwith laid upon the exportation, by land or water, without a permit from the Governor, of wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork, salt, peas, beans, bread, flour, and every kind of meal, except necessary stores for outward bound vessels; also all kinds of cloths, linen and woollen, suitable for clothing for the army. Also an embargo was laid upon beef, live cattle, sheep, butter, and cheese; provided that the act should not extend to prevent any person from carrying or sending to such soldiers in the army as might be under the care and special relation of such person, any necessary clothing or provisions for their own use. And the Governor was required to issue his proclamation accordingly.

The Legislature, in compliance with the resolution of Congress of the 16th of September, 1776, and of the 8th of October, 1776, that eight battalions should be immediately raised out of the colony troops then in the army, and of other inhabitants of the State as would enlist, to serve during the war on the encouragement offered by Congress. The Assembly in addition to that encouragement, to induce the citizens of Connecticut to enlist, offered to make suitable provision for furnishing said troops with clothing and other necessities (not provided by Congress) on the best terms for which they could be procured, and delivered to said soldiers at first cost ; and to take care of the sick and wounded, that they should be provided with all necessities for their comfort and relief.

The State of Massachusetts Bay having added to the wages and allowance of the troops then about to be raised in that State for the service, the Assembly resolved, that every non-commissioned officer and soldier of the State, who had enlisted into the eight battalions ordered to be raised, should have and receive from the State of Connecticut so much over and above the wages allowed and offered, or that should be allowed and offered by the Continental Congress, as would make up the pay of a soldier to £3 per month during said service, and the pay of a non-commissioned officer in proportion thereto ; and in addition, that each non-commissioned officer or soldier that should enlist in either of said eight battalions, should annually have from the State a good blanket.

It was ordered by the Assembly, that each tent ordered made in the several towns, should contain 27 yards of cloth, one yard wide, well manufactured of yarn, not coarser than 30 knots to the pound.

The Assembly appointed John Durkee, Jedediah Huntington, Andrew Ward, Jr., William Douglass, John Chester, Philip Burr Bradley, Homan Swift, and John Douglass, Esq's., to be colonels of the eight battalions ordered raised in this State.

Samuel Prentice, Giles Russell, Solomon Wells, Obadiah Johnson, James Arnold, Thomas Hobby, John Chandler, and Josiah Starr, Esq's., to be lieutenant colonels of the eight battalions aforesaid.

John Sumner, John Ely, Waterman Clift, Hezekiah Holdridge, David Dimon, John Ripley, Matthew Mead, and John Bigelow, Esq's., to be majors of said eight battalions aforesaid.

#### CAPTAINS.

Noah Phelps, Hezekiah Parsons, Elijah Robinson, Abner Pryor, Amasa Mills, John Isham, Jonathan Johnson, Eliphalet Holmes, Ichabod Norton, John Harmon, John Wells, Chester Wells, John Parker, Simon Wolcott, Abraham Tyler, and Edward Eells, to be captains in the said eight battalions.

Edward Russell, Jonas Prentice, Nathaniel Bunnell, William Hull, Peter Perritt, Eli Leavenworth, Stephen Hall, and David Smith.

David Fisher Sill, Christopher Darrow, Jr., Jedediah Hide, Abel Spicer, Christopher Ely, William Belcher, Aaron Stephens, Edward Shipman, Richard Deshon, Ebenezer Brewster, and Ebenezer Huntington.

Robert Walker, Elijah Abel, Samuel Keeler, Joseph Hart, Sylvanus Brown, Noble Benedict, Phineas Beardsley, Jabez Botsford, Ezekiel Sanford, and Albert Chapman.

Thomas Grovesnor, John Keyes, James Clark, James Dana, Benoni Cutler, Vine Elderkin, Wells Clift, Stephen Brown, Daniel Allen, and Daniel Tilden.

**Nathaniel Tuttle, Isaac Bostwick, Abraham Bradley, Simeon Smith, Edward Rogers, Jesse Kimball, Solomon Strong, Bezaleel Bebee, and Theodore Woodbridge, Esq's., to be captains in the eight battalions ordered raised in this State.**

**FIRST LIEUTENANTS.**

**The Assembly appointed Edward Bulkley, John Barnard, Eliphalet Chamberlain, Henry Champion, Jr., Marcus Cole, George Griswold, Jr., Thomas Hollister, Jr., Isaac Spencer, Ambrose Sloper, David McClure, Thomas Abby, Ichabod Hinkley, Samuel Carver, Stephen Palmer, Samuel Granger, and Ebenezer Wright, to be 1st lieutenants in said eight battalions.**

**Joseph Mansfield, Israel Potter, Nathan Parsons, Michael Brunson, Ephraim Chamberlin, Gilbert Dudley, Samuel Barker, Jr., and Samuel Baldwin, Jr.**

**David Novins, Edward Hallam, Thomas Avery, Jonathan Palmer, Caleb Baldwin, Elisha Lee, Simeon Huntington, William Adams, Jacob Dewit, Oliver Babcock, and Beriah Bill.**

**Robert Lewis, Josiah Lacy, Joseph A. Wright, Joseph Webb, Jr., John Jones, Lemuel Benedict, William Hawley, James Betts, Sylvanus Mead, and William Green.**

**John McGregor, John Shumway, Abner Bacon, William Trezel, James Sprague, Josiah Child, Elias Weld, Joseph Talcott, Abner Robinson, and Andrew Fitch.**

**Peter Mills, Thomas Converse, Jesse Cook, Nathan Stoddard, Asabel Hodge, Elisha Bostwick, Eleazur Claghorn, John Rockwell, and Obadiah Gore, Jr., to be 1st lieutenants in the eight battalions ordered raised in this State.**

**SECOND LIEUTENANTS.**

**The Assembly appointed Roger Hooker, Edward Payne, Joseph Booth, Jr., Simeon Newell, Thomas Hayden, Ezekiel P. Belding, Abraham Wright, Aaron Hale, Jonathan Humphrey, Jr., Peleg Heath, Samuel Hazard, Jr., David Starr, Elijah Chapman, Jr., Silas Blodget, Samuel Felt, Jr., and Jonathan Hart.**

**Charles Norton, Amos Fowler, Ambrose Hine, Ebenezer Fowler, Jr., Stephen Potter, Wm. Clark, Nathaniel Edwards, and Elias Stilwell.**

**John Blackleach, Ebenezer Banks, Jr., Thaddeus Weed, Henry Warring, John St. John, James Hughs, Judson Whiting, Reuben Scovil, Samuel Hoit, and James Barns.**

**Enoch Reed, William Richards, Park Avery, Jr., Nathaniel Bishop, Moses Dudley, Jr., Daniel Collins, William Raymond, Ezra Selden, Jr., Henry Hill, Ebenezer Perkins, and Joshua Tracy.**

**Daniel Knowlton, Josiah Fuller, Joseph Birge, Sanford Kingsbury, Joshua Bottom, Ebenezer West, Paul Brigham, Sylvanus Perry, Samuel Campbell, and Benjamin Durkee.**

**Noah Judson, John Hohenbeck, Reuben Calking, Ebenezer Hill, John Jenkins, Jr., Josiah Stoddard, Jesse Grant, Samuel Stone Butler, and Samuel Pettibone, to be 2d lieutenants in the eight battalions aforesaid.**

**ENSIGNS.**

**The Assembly appointed Elijah Ransom, Samuel Richards, Elisha Brister, Jr., Simeon Belding, Powning Deming, Josiah Blakeslee, Benjamin Holcomb, Simeon Gains, John Buell, Orlando Mack, Benjamin Henshaw, Jr., Bildad Granger, Titus Bunnell, David Spencer, Samuel Smith, Phineas Grover, John Odell, Jer-**

emiah Beard Eells, Gideon Waterbury, Thomas Hobby, Jr., Ebenezer Olmsted, Benjamin Hicock, Timothy Taylor, Clement Botsford, James Bebee, and Stephen Betts.

William Smith, David Dudley, 3d, Joseph Shaylor, Joseph Beach, Jr., John Mansfield, David Hitchcock, Edward Riggs, Timothy White, Obadiah Child, Ichabod Bosworth, Joseph Hull, Lemuel Grosvenor, Lemuel Clift, Ebenezer Wales, Jonathan Nichols, Simon House, David Dorrance, and John Alden.

Daniel Wait, Daniel Billings, John Durkee, Jr., Jabez Smith, Jr., David Bill, Asa Story, Richard Douglass, Benoni Shipman, Charles Fanning, Thomas Updike, Fosdick Clark, and Reuben Clark.

David Goff, Elihu Smith, Salmon Agard, Zerah Beach, Alexander Waugh, Israel Jones, Jr., Charles Goodwin, Asa Brunson, and John Jameson, to be ensigns in the eight battalions so raised as aforesaid.

The Governor and Council of Safety were authorized to appoint all the staff officers, for the eight battalions ordered raised within the colony, and to fill all such vacancies as should occur in said battalions, either of commissioned officers or of the staff, by reason of refusal or otherwise, during the recess of the Assembly; and to appoint paymasters to the several regiments.

David Wooster, Esq., was appointed major general of the militia.

The seaport towns on Long Island sound being greatly exposed to the incursions of the enemy, the Legislature authorized the Governor to apply to Congress to allow two battalions, at the expense of the United States, to be stationed along the coast in this State, at such places as the Governor and Council of Safety should direct.

The near approach of the enemy to the western part of Connecticut, and the critical situation of the continental army, together with the danger there was of the enemy's cutting off the communication between the country and the troops, called for the speedy exertion of all the strength in that quarter, to oppose their further inroads; and it was therefore ordered, that as many of the militia as were fit for service, and other householders and able bodied, effective men, within the limits of the 9th, 10th, 13th, and 16th regiments, should be immediately called out, well armed, equipped, and embodied under the command of Major General Wooster, appointed for this purpose, to lead and command the troops in the necessary operations against the enemy, and to relieve the army; and notify the commander-in-chief of the continental army of his situation, and his readiness to co-operate with him, take his directions, and consult with other generals of our army that should be most convenient.

And it was also ordered, that the 3d regiment of light horse, and the troop of horse in the 10th regiment of militia, should forthwith march to the western part of this State, and join the forces under the command of Maj. Gen. Wooster, who was empowered to give orders for their march, operations, and stations.

It was farther ordered, that the committee of pay table should draw upon the Treasurer in favor of the colonel of each regiment of the militia ordered to march as aforesaid, for such sum as would enable the colonels to pay 20 shillings to each officer and soldier of the regiment that should join and march as ordered. And it was resolved, that the troops of horse and militia so ordered out, should not be holden in said service longer than two months from the time of their march.

A number of non-commissioned officers and soldiers neglected to march to New York in August and September, 1776, after having been so ordered by the Governor; it was resolved, that Col. J. Fitch, of New Haven, and Col. John Mead, should pay each of said officers and soldiers that should march according to the Governor's proclamation, 20 shillings lawful money, and exhibit their account to the pay table for allowance.

An act was passed to compel all persons to furnish necessary stores and assistance to the quarter master general of the continental army. That if any person within the State should on request, refuse to sell or supply the quarter master, or his agent, with the articles of timber, boards, shingles, brick or stone, or let their horses, oxen, carts or carriages to transport the same, or other necessary supplies and aid for the use of the army; it was made the duty of any assistant or justice of the peace, on complaint of the quarter master, to grant a warrant, and impress from persons so refusing, all articles aforesaid necessary for the supply of the army, by paying the reasonable value of such articles, on appraisal, taken or used.

It was ordered by the Assembly, that there should be provided in this State, as soon as might be, for the use of the militia when called into actual service, the following articles of camp equipage and utensils, viz.: 2,000 tents, 2,000 iron pots, containing 2 gallons each; 4,000 wooden bowls, and 6,000 canteens or wooden bottles. And it was resolved, that the same should be provided by the several towns in this State, in manner and proportion following, viz.: that 1 tent, 1 iron pot, 2 wooden bowls, and 3 canteens, should be provided for every £1,000 of the grand list of such towns in the year 1775. And the selectmen were ordered to procure said articles, and hold them in constant readiness for the use of the militia when called into service, the cost whereof was directed to be paid and borne by such towns respectively; and also procure boxes to secure said articles for transportation.

The committee of pay table were authorized and directed to adjust and allow all reasonable sums for inevitable losses of clothing, blankets, arms, and accoutrements of the officers and soldiers of the militia, or new levies that were provided for and used by them; provided they should produce a certificate from two of the general officers then in the army, of this State, or from one general officer and one colonel of this State; and all sums justly due for costs by sickness on the road, going or returning from either of said armies, or for medicine at the army, that could not have been obtained out of the public stores. Also that all officers and soldiers of the militia who marched in obedience to orders of the Governor, to the assistance of the army after the 1st of July, 1776, and produced a discharge, or were permitted to return on furlough, or by reason of sickness, and not returned as *deserters*, should be allowed 20 shillings each for their extraordinary expenses at that season of the year; also the representatives of such as died in the service, over and above the wages and mileage allowed by Congress. And the commanding officers of the regiments, were ordered to return the names of all deserters in their regiments, to the committee of pay table, to enable said committee to execute the trust.

Gen. Gates, by a letter to the Assembly, requested to be sent to Ticonderoga, a number of iron spades and shovels; and a quantity of flour and shingle nails to Skeensborough, for the use of the army under his command. Maj. Ebenezer Gay was therefore appointed by the Assembly, to purchase 200 spades and

shovels, and send them forthwith to Gen. Gates, at 'Ticonderoga. Also to purchase ten tons of wheat flour, and transport it immediately to Skeensborough, to be there stored as Gen. Gates should direct. And the Treasurer was directed to deliver to Maj. E. Gay the sum of £300, and take his receipt to account for the same. Dr. John Dickinson was appointed to employ a number of nail makers forthwith to manufacture shingle nails; and the Governor was requested to inform Gen. Gates thereof, and request him to inform the Governor the quantity required.

The committee appointed to take into consideration what further measures were best to be taken to provide for the relief of the militia of the State, and to obtain their early release from service—reported, that the Legislature should request the Governor to write to Gen. Washington, and request him, as soon as might be, to discharge all the sick in the militia, who should be judged incapable for further service: and provide blankets and clothing for such of the militia as had been so unfortunate as to have lost them in retreating from the enemy, or to permit some suitable persons on furlough, to repair to the different parts of the State to inform the friends of such soldiers, and procure the articles of them.

The committee of pay table were directed to draw an order upon the Treasurer for the sum of £400 in bills, in favor of Elisha Sheldon, to defray the expense of the light horse under his command ordered to march into the State of New York.

Wait Goodrich, Eneas Munson, Guy Richards, Abraham Beardslee, Constant Southworth, Asahel Bebee, and Zebulon Butler, were appointed inspectors of gun powder, until the 1st day of June, 1777; and Constant Southworth, Dr. Eneas Munson, Col. Joshua Porter, and Wait Goodrich, Esq'srs., were appointed re-inspectors of salt petre at the powder mills, until the 1st day of June, 1777.

It was represented to the Legislature, that the act passed in June, 1776, appointing Samuel Squire, to purchase pork, &c., for the use of the colony, that some persons in Fairfield county, in violation of said act, retained quantities of pork wanted for the public; Samuel Squire was therefore directed to seize any quantity of pork that should be wanted for public use, from any person that had or should refuse to sell the same, as provided in said act; and when seized, to pay for it as provided in the last act aforesaid. And said Squire was empowered to take with him assistance for that purpose, and to break open any shop or store, in order to carry said law into full effect.

The Assembly having been informed of the distressed condition of many of the militia that had been ordered to join the continental army, by want of physicians and medicines for the sick; they appointed Doct. Samuel Galo, and Dr. Jonathan Todd, (as his mate) forthwith to repair to the continental troops and militia in New Jersey, to carry with them as many medicines and refreshments as they conveniently could, and to take care of any of the sick from this State. And £100 was ordered to be paid to Dr. Galo to enable them to provide for and do the business.

The Assembly was also informed, by letter from Dr. Morgan to the Governor, of the necessity of some person's being appointed to take immediate care of the hospital stores for the Connecticut troops in the continental service, and offering 8 shillings per day for such persons as should be so appointed. The Legislature therefore appointed Dr. Philip Turner, of Norwich, to be physician and



surgeon for the Connecticut troops in the continental service, and director of said hospital stores for said troops; and authorized said Turner to procure all medical stores he should judge necessary. And the Assembly directed that said Turner should be paid 4 shillings, in addition to the 8 shillings per day offered as an inducement for his acceptance of said appointment. And the Governor was requested to give notice of said appointment to said Turner, and urge his acceptance of the trust, and order him to repair immediately to said troops—and an order from the pay table of £300 lawful money, was given to said Turner, to procure hospital stores for the Connecticut troops.

It was ordered by the Assembly, that the fire arms that were ordered made for the use of the State, should be of the following dimensions, viz.: the length of the barrel from 3 feet 8 inches to 3 feet 10 inches; the bore from inside to inside should be so large as to receive an ounce ball in a cartridge; blade of bayonet 16 inches in length, and socket four inches; iron ram rods with a spring in the lowest loop to secure the ram rods; a good bridle lock; mounted with brass, and marked with the name of the maker, and also the letters, S. C. on the barrel of each gun.

It was resolved by the Assembly, that Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ephraim Pease, Capt. Dudley Wright, Dr. John Dickinson, Asahel Holcomb, Nathan Frink, Capt. Jabez Huntington, and Capt. John Phelps, should be a committee, in addition to a former one, to procure fire arms and gun locks, offering the same encouragement as before. And Elihu Clark, Maj. Nathaniel Brown, Samuel Smith, Capt. L. Stoughton, Isaac Doolittle, Joseph Hopkins, Samuel Noyes, John Raymond, Capt. D. Judson, Capt. J. Huntington, Elnathan Walker, Edmond Beach, and Capt. M. Gillett, were appointed inspectors, to examine and approve of all such fire arms and locks as should be made within the State.

As it was necessary to keep the foundry at Salisbury in blast, for the purpose of making a sufficient number of cannon for the public defence; and it being difficult in the ordinary method to procure wood to keep the same in blast; the Assembly ordered the purchase of a quantity of wood of the heirs of Daniel Edwards.

It became necessary that a commissary of prisoners of war should be appointed in the several States. It was resolved, that Epaphras Bull, of Hartford, should be a commissary of prisoners of war, in this State, whose duty it was made, to take care of all such prisoners as were then or should be sent into this State, and provide for them; and observe all rules and orders of the General Assembly, Governor, and Committee of Safety, and the Continental Congress, regarding such prisoners, and make monthly returns of the condition of said prisoners to the board of war appointed by Congress.

Doctors Alexander Wolcott, John Dickinson, John Watrous, Eneas Munson, Leverit Hubbard, Elias Carrington, Elisha Tracy, Benjamin Gale, Eleazer Mather, Platt Townsend, Amos Mead, James Cogswell, John Clark, Elisha Lord, Samuel Lee, Reuben Smith, Elisha Sill, and Seth Bird, or any three of them, were appointed a committee to examine all persons in this State that were offered to serve as surgeons or surgeon's mates, in the continental army or navy, and if found qualified, to give them certificates accordingly. Firstly being sworn to a faithful performance of said duty.



A resolution passed to desire the Governor to request the commanding officer of the northern army, to order suitable provision made for the officers and soldiers of Connecticut, particularly for the sick on their return home. And if it should be found difficult for said officer to attend to said business, the Governor and Council of Safety were desired to make such provision.

Elijah Hyde, Jr., was appointed major of the 2d regiment of light horse, in the place of William Hillhouse, Esq., resigned.

The Legislature were apprehensive that the stores and provisions for the use of the army and the people of Connecticut, were in great danger of being taken by the enemy, particularly such as were stored in the various parts along the sound in several towns in the western part of the State; they therefore appointed John Davenport, Esq., forthwith to proceed, with the advice of any agent under the commissary general, and remove all such stores back into the country, from the sea shore, to some safe place of deposit, with full power to impress men, teams, and carriages, as they should find necessary.

The Governor was requested to issue his proclamation, offering a pardon to all such non-commissioned officers and soldiers, as had not mustered according to his orders, for the defence of the country; and such as had deserted the service after they had joined and marched with their corps, after the 1st day of July, 1776; provided they would immediately return to their duty, and join their respective companies, or to any company then ordered to march under Maj. Gen. Wooster, with full pay and rations. And it was further ordered, that the Governor should direct immediate process to be issued against all such as should still refuse to comply with their duty; and that said proclamation should be published in the several newspapers in this State.

The 3d and part of the 1st regiment of light horse were ordered to march to the west part of the State, under the command of Gen. Wooster; and he was authorized to draw on the pay table, and to pay 20 shillings to each person, as advance pay, that should so march, and render his account therefor.

It was ordered by the Assembly, that a hospital should be provided and maintained by the State, for the reception of all such soldiers of this State, as should serve in the continental army, and such of the militia as should join the army during the war. And that said hospital should be under the direction of a chief surgeon, appointed by the State, and furnished with skilful surgeons, medicines, &c., and should deal out the same to the regimental surgeons. The organization of which, and provisions therefor, was submitted to the care and order of the Governor and his Council of Safety, with the advice of the general. And said Assembly ordered 400 bed sacks, 400 shirts, 400 blankets, and 800 sheets, to be forthwith procured for the use of the sick in said hospital.

It was ordered, that Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, Thaddeus Burr, and John Davenport, Esq's., or any three of them, should repair to the army, under the command of Gen. Washington, and with the advice of the general officers belonging to this State in said army, to arrange into regiments and companies, the officers appointed by the Assembly for said battalions to be raised in the State, and number their commissions according to their rank.

The exposed situation of the towns on the sound, by reason of the British being in our waters on the coast, and the danger of our being taken by surprise, induced the Legislature to direct the Governor forthwith to issue his orders to the chief commanders (then present) of the 2d, 3d, 4th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and

12th regiments of militia; to have special care that the officers and soldiers of said regiments should be well equipped with arms and ammunition, and their post assigned them to which to repair in case of an alarm, and the captains well instructed, as well as the subalterns and soldiers, to be careful not to be unawares surprised. And that in case the enemy should land on the coast in any town, to give speedy notice to the adjoining towns, to collect all possible force, and use all means to repel the enemy.

The great distress in the State for money, induced the Legislature to direct the pay table to forthwith call the several commissaries to settle their accounts, and particularly the disbursements of commissary Fitch, at New York, to Gen. Wooster's regiment, for the purpose of settling with the Continental Congress, for such sums as had been advanced by the State for their benefit.

The Assembly having been informed that a number of persons in the western towns in the State, were inimical to the liberties of this and the United States, and were forming dangerous insurrections, and were taking all methods to communicate intelligence to the enemy, and comforting and assisting them, and distressing and annoying the inhabitants of the said towns:—whereupon the Legislature appointed Abraham Davenport, Daniel Sherman, Thomas Fitch, Andrew Adams, and Josiah Bissell, Esq's., forthwith to repair to said towns, and bring before them all suspected persons, and those dangerous to the rights and liberties of America, in that critical state of affairs. And on examination, such as should be found dangerous, to send them, under a proper guard, to such place in the colony as they should think best, there to remain for the safety of the colony, under the direction of the Governor and Council of Safety. And the Governor was desired to direct Gen. Wooster to render the committee all the aid required to execute said trust. And three of said committee were authorized to do the duty.

Joseph Thomson, Jonathan Lattimer, Samuel Whiting, John Tyler, Thaddeus Cook, Increase Mosely, Selah Hart, Comfort Sage, and Jonathan Humphrey, were appointed colonels of militia.

Benjamin Fenn, Marshfield Parsons, Abraham Gould, Oliver Smith, Jeremiah Mason, Samuel Canfield, John Chandler, Noadiah Hooker, John Penfield, Epaphras Sheldon, and Seth Smith, were appointed lieutenant colonels in the militia.

Edward Russell, Joseph Harris, Jr., Jonathan Dimon, Nathan Gallop, Joel Jones, Jethro Hatch, Nehemiah Beardsley, Medad Hills, Gad Stanly, Abiel Pease, Nathaniel Brown, and Amos Wilcox, were appointed majors in the militia of this State.

An order of £100 was given in favor of Thomas Fitch, Josiah Bissell, and Andrew Adams, by the pay table, to enable them to execute the duties of their appointment, in the western towns.

Lamberton Smith, and others, of New Haven, preferred a memorial to the Assembly, complaining of two gentlemen in that city as being inimical to the rights and liberties of the State, &c, and asked for their removal, &c. A trial was had, and the offenders found guilty, and sentenced to be removed to the society of Eastbury, in the town of Glastenbury, there to remain in said society, under the civil authority and selectmen of the town, at their own cost, until further orders;—with directions that they were not to receive, or send any letters, until they should have been perused by the civil authority, &c., &c.

George Philips, ensign of a light infantry company of the 23d regiment of militia, and others, complained that N. Shailor, captain of said company, had been, in August, 1776, duly ordered by Matthew Talcott, colonel of said regiment, to muster his company and march them to the assistance of the army under Gen. Washington, then at New York; and that said Shailor wilfully disobeyed said orders, &c. After his arrest and trial, said Assembly resolved, that said captain was cashiered of his office, and incapacitated in holding any office or place of trust under the State, &c. thereafter.

It was recommended to all able bodied men in the State, who were not included in any military company, to form themselves into military companies, choose their officers, &c. The Assembly resolved, that if a sufficient number of such men united and formed a company, and made a return thereof to the Governor, that he should commission the officers of such company or companies.

The Assembly recommended to the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns situated on the sea coast and sound, forthwith to set up a sufficient military watch and ward, and order sufficient sentries to be set in all proper places contiguous to the sea coast, to take special care of all water craft in said towns, and that they be carefully inspected by said watch in the night season.

It was represented to the Assembly, that Col. Ethan Allen, together with about eighteen other native citizens of Connecticut, had been taken prisoners in the service of the United States of America, by a party of armed forces of the King of Great Britain, near Montreal, in the province of Quebec, on the 25th day of September, 1775; that they had suffered great hardships during their captivity, and that they were then confined in a suffering condition, incarcerated in a common gaol, in Halifax; and that Levi Allen, of Salisbury, was about to attempt to visit his brother, and that a supply might be transmitted to said prisoners, to whom wages were due; the Legislature therefore requested the Governor to address a letter to Gen. Washington, to the Continental Congress, or the commander at Boston, or each of them, to earnestly request such seasonable and friendly interposition in their favor as might be thought necessary, and most likely to procure a speedy exchange of said prisoners. And the pay table were directed to draw an order in favor of Levi Allen, for the sum of £120, lawful money, to be paid by said Allen to said prisoners, towards their wages due from this government.

Upon a memorial of the selectmen of New Haven, shewing sundry things were required for the defence of New Haven; the Assembly directed that the three 12 pounders brought to said town, should remain there, at the expense of the State, and the charge of transporting the same should be paid out of the State treasury, and liable to be removed by the Governor, &c. And that the company under Capt. Thomson should remain where they were stationed, as a guard at Black Rock; that the roofs of the barrack should be shingled and a chimney built; that the militia of New Haven should hold themselves equipped, and in constant readiness to defend the town, and not be liable to be removed.— And the Governor and Council of Safety were authorized to carry said directions into full effect, and make such further provision for the security of said town, and the rest of the sea coast, as they should think expedient.

It was ordered, that £30 : 3, be paid to Thomas Bidwell, for the time he had lost in waiting for the committee to procure the twenty iron pots and receivers,

to manufacture sulphur, under a contract with the State, which could not be procured by said committee.

The inhabitants of Stratford shewed to the Assembly, their exposed situation to be assailed by the enemy, both foreign and domestic; that their distance from Long Island was about twenty miles; that a large point of land lay between said town and the sound, with a good shore for landing troops, and of easy access to the town; that the fears of the inhabitants were greatly increased in their then alarming circumstances, &c.; and prayed the Assembly to station a guard of twenty men in said town, for one month. The Legislature gave the inhabitants of Stratford liberty to raise, by voluntary enlistment, twenty able bodied men, exclusive of their officers, to be well armed and equipped, with a lieutenant, two sargeants, and two corporals; and Lieut. Ebenezer Coe was directed immediately to enlist said soldiers for one month, to have their billet and pay, while in said service, and paid by the State.

A memorial of the civil authority and selectmen of Norwalk, stated to the Assembly, the exposed and dangerous situation of the town, and the necessity of having a body of militia stationed there, and the great difficulty of billeting troops there on account of the number of sick soldiers that had been sent to Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich; and pray that the militia of Norwalk might be stationed at Norwalk. The Legislature therefore directed that the Governor should direct Maj. Gen. Wooster to station a sufficient number of troops under his command, in the towns of Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich, where he should judge most needful for the safety of those towns. And that Gen. Wooster should so order that the respective militia of said towns should be stationed in said several towns where they belonged, so far as was convenient.

Jabez West, of Norwich, a sutler in the army, was allowed for supplying the sick with sundry articles for their relief, £70 13 : 6.

The sum of £20, lawful money, was allowed Eliphalet Beacher, of New Haven, for money expended in hiring teams for the use of the army.

James Wilson, of Boston, who was wounded in the service, was allowed £3, lawful money.

The cargo of molasses, imported in the brig Nancy, as reported by N. Lathrop, &c., of the committee of inspection; R. Lathrop, J. Perkins, and D. Woodbridge, were appointed a committee to appraise, under oath, said cargo, and make a full inventory thereof, &c.; and deliver, with an invoice of what they deliver, said cargo to the commissaries of supplies for Connecticut troops, under the order of the Governor and Council of Safety, to be deposited with the Treasurer of the colony, &c., and the avails thereof to be disposed of as before ordered.

Edward Hinman, Esq. of Woodbury, chairman of the committee of inspection for said town, represented to the Assembly, that the Committee of Safety for the State of New York, on the 21st of October, 1776, had sent nine persons, as prisoners of war, eight of whom were sailors, and one child, who were taken at Staten Island during the summer of 1776, to the committee aforesaid; that said prisoners from the time of their capture had been stationed at Pound Ridge, in Westchester county, N. Y., and that the Committee of Safety there were apprehensive that the place was not a secure one for the prisoners to reside longer, as the enemy were within a few miles of them; and the committee in this State doubted whether said Committee of Safety were authorized, by the resolves of

the Continental Congress, to send said prisoners into this State, and whether, if so, the committee here were empowered to provide for them ; but that said committee, considering the extraordinary circumstances of the case, and the apparent necessity of the prisoners being removed from that place ; the committee did receive them, and made provision for them, and appointed Col. I. Mosely to attend to their conduct until the committee should be instructed by the Assembly. The prisoners were destitute of clothing and needed full suits to protect them against the inclemency (of the then) approaching winter. (Petition dated 22d day of October, 1776.) The Assembly directed the Committee of Safety to keep, and afford comfortable support to said prisoners, until further orders should be received. The names of said prisoners, as certified by Increase Mosely, town clerk of Woodbury, were—James Willson, John Murray, Samuel Coppin, Jeremiah Rurdon, Henry Killigroce, Michael Couney, Cæsar Freeman, William Patterson, and his daughter, Mary Ann Patterson.

All petitions of a private or personal nature, were continued to the Assembly, to be holden in May, 1777.

The Assembly adjourned on the 7th day of November, 1776.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### SPECIAL SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut, in New England, holden at Hartford, by special order of the Governor, on the 19th day of November, 1776.

Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Nine Assistants present.

THE rapid and exorbitant rise upon the necessaries of life in that day of public calamity and distress, were chiefly occasioned by the monopolizers of provisions, a class of men who preferred their own private gain to the interest, comfort, and safety of their country—to prevent which the Legislature passed an act governing the price of labor ; for farming in the summer not exceeding 3 shillings per day, and in proportion at other seasons of the year. The labor of mechanics to be reduced in the same proportion. Wheat, not exceeding 6 shillings per bushel ; rye, 3 shillings and 6 pence ; Indian corn, 3 shillings ; good merchantable wool, not to exceed 2 shillings per pound ; best kind of well dressed flax, 10 pence per pound ; pork, weighing from five to seven scores not more than 3 pence 1 farthing per pound, over that weight 3 and half pence per pound, up to ten scores, if over ten scores, 3 and three-fourths pence per pound ; grass-fed beef of the best quality, not to exceed 24 shillings per hundred, and in proportion according to quality ; raw hides, not to exceed 3 pence per pound ;

salt, 10 shillings per bushel; good West India rum, of merchantable proof, 6 shillings per gallon, by the hogshead; best muscovado sugar, 60 shillings per hundred by the hogshead; molasses, 3 shillings by the hogshead, and so in proportion to be sold; New England rum, of the best quality, 3 shillings and 6 pence per gallon by the hogshead; bohea tea, 4 shillings and 6 pence by the chest; cheese, 6 pence per pound; fall butter, 10 pence per pound; and all other articles not mentioned, were to be in a reasonable proportion to the aforesaid reduction. It was further enacted, that if any person should contract or receive for labor, or vend, sell, or receive for any of the aforesaid articles more than at the rates aforesaid, or for others not enumerated in an unreasonable disproportion thereto, should be accounted oppressive and guilty of a breach of the act, and suffer the penalties of the laws of this State against oppression.

The time for taking the oath of fidelity was by act suspended until the first Monday after the first Tuesday in April, 1777.

The exportation of necessaries and other articles that were required in the State, in that time of scarcity and war, endangered the inhabitants of the State to great want, and was likely to prove prejudicial to the public. The Legislature therefore directed the Governor, with the advice of his Council of Safety, from time to time, as he should see cause, to issue his proclamation to prohibit the transportation, either by land or water, of any article that he should think necessary and expedient to prohibit, for such time as he should limit in his proclamation; provided that said embargo should not extend to necessary provisions for ships of war, or privateers, or merchant ships, that belonged to the State or the United States, for their necessary stores; and not to continue in force after the expiration of twenty days, next after the first day of the session, of the (then) next session of said Assembly. And that said embargo so laid should be effectual. That upon publishing a proclamation for an embargo, all persons and masters of ships, &c., within this State, should forthwith, land all embargoed articles that they should have on board their vessels, &c., or loaded on carts, pack horses, &c., or otherwise for transportation, on penalty of five times the value of such embargoed article, (unless a bond was given.) And it was provided, that if any person should neglect, or refuse to conform to the act, that any assistant, or justice of the peace might, ex-officio, or by warrant, seize such embargoed articles, and hold them until he should conform to said act, and pay all costs occasioned by his refusal. And if any person should wilfully violate the act, by carrying or driving any embargoed articles out of the State, contrary to said proclamation, that he should forfeit double the value thereof; one-half to the prosecutor, and the other half to the public. Also repealed the former act, to enable the Governor to lay an embargo, and for rendering the same effectual.

An additional act to prevent engrossing was passed, giving the commissaries in the different parts of the State, appointed for collecting articles of clothing &c., for the army, special direction to give information against all persons they might find purchasing up, and engrossing such articles aforesaid, contrary to the true intent of the former act.

And an act to prevent the monopolizing of salt, was passed, empowering the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns, upon application to them made, to cause a warrant to be issued, signed by proper authority, and directed to some officer, to cause the stores, &c., of any engrosser or monopolizer, within

their respective towns, to be opened, seized, and distributed among the inhabitants who should need it, at the price of the article affixed by law ; and render such account to the owner or owners of said salt.

It was enacted, that four battalions, properly officered, should be forthwith raised, by voluntary enlistment, to supply and join the continental army (then) near New York, until the 15th day of March, 1777, unless they should be sooner discharged. And that each non-commissioned officer and soldier who should so enlist, should be entitled to the same wages and supplies as was established in the continental army ; and should also be entitled to a premium of 40 shillings, if they should furnish themselves with clothing, arms, and accoutrements ; also a blanket and knapsack fit for said service. But, if said officer should fail to provide himself with a good gun and bayonet, that the same should be supplied by the selectmen of the town to which he should belong, as provided in the act of June, 1777, with a deduction of 6 shillings from the premium. And that the act passed in October, 1777, adding 20 shillings per month to the wages of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers in the eight battalions, was repealed. It was also enacted, that all non-commissioned officers and soldiers who did not incline to enlist during the war, and should enlist for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress, should be entitled to all such bounty and pay as were allowed to those who enlisted during the war, except the 100 acres of land which was to be granted to those only who enlisted without limitation of time. And each recruiting officer was required to provide two distinct enlisting rolls, one for such as should enlist during the war, the other for such as should enlist for three years, if not sooner discharged by Congress.

The Assembly appointed the following persons, to their respective offices in the four battalions ordered to be raised by the preceding act, for continental service, until the 15th day of March, 1777,—arranged as follows, viz. :

#### FIRST BATTALION.

This Assembly do appoint, Samuel Whiting, colonel ; Samuel Canfield, lieutenant colonel ; Stephen St. John, major.

Shubael Griswold, captain ; Jonathan Mason, 1st lieutenant ; Theodore Catlin, 2d lieutenant ; Jesse Buel, ensign.

Dan Towner, captain ; Amos Northrop, 1st lieutenant ; Charles Smith, 2d lieutenant ; Hugh Cane, ensign.

Amos Chapell, captain ; Benjamin Brownson, 1st lieutenant ; Morgan Noble, 2d lieutenant ; Stephen Dodge, ensign.

Eliphalet Thorp, captain ; George Burr, 1st lieutenant ; Gamaliel Taylor, 2d lieutenant ; Seth Bradley, ensign.

Jesse Bell, captain ; Gershom Morehouse, 1st lieutenant ; Sylvanus Marshall, 2d lieutenant ; Isaac Howe, Jr., ensign.

Daniel Hicock, captain ; Henry Fairman, 1st lieutenant ; William Oakley, 2d lieutenant ; Daniel Sanford, ensign.

Samuel Comstock, captain ; Nathaniel Blackman, 1st lieutenant ; Eli Reed, 2d lieutenant ; Uriah Raymond, ensign.

David Hinman, captain ; David Bebee, 1st lieutenant ; John Givins, 2d lieutenant ; Enoch Parsons, ensign.



**SECOND BATTALION.**

Thaddens Cook, colonel; Epaphras Sheldon, lieutenant colonel; Edward Russell, major.

John Watson, captain; Samuel Mille, 1st lieutenant; Russel Hunt, 2d lieutenant; Zachariah Watson, ensign.

Asa Bray, captain; Silas Holcomb, 1st lieutenant; Amasa Hitchcock, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Churchill, ensign.

Augustus Collins, captain; Isaac Sherman Kimberly, 1st lieutenant; Dan Johnson, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Thomas Powers, ensign.

Benjamin Richards, captain; Isaac Brownson, Jr., 1st lieutenant; William Law, 2d lieutenant; Benjamin Fenn, Jr., ensign.

Samuel Osborn, captain; Jared Robinson, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Loveland, 2d lieutenant; Edward Mulford, ensign.

James Robinson, captain; Benjamin Hine, 1st lieutenant; James Smith, 2d lieutenant; Charles Burritt, ensign.

Asaph Hall, captain; Warham Gibbs, 1st lieutenant; Jacob Hinesdale, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Kingsbury, ensign.

Elijah Smith, captain; John Tredway, 1st lieutenant; Joshua Brainard, 2d lieutenant; Robert Bradford, ensign.

**THIRD BATTALION.**

Roger Enos, colonel; Samuel Gale, lieutenant colonel; Amos Wilcox, major.

Roger Ryley, captain; Elijah Blackman, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Kellogg, 2d lieutenant; John Johnson, ensign.

Edward Griswold, captain; Samuel Jones, 1st lieutenant; Alexander Kenny, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Root, ensign.

Elijah Wright, captain; Isaac Goodrich, 1st lieutenant; Solomon Phelps, 2d lieutenant; Josiah Brown, ensign.

Phineas Lovejoy, captain; Samuel Felt, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Abner Granger, 2d lieutenant; John Russell, ensign.

William Orcutt, Jr., captain; Samuel Tudor, 1st lieutenant; Joshua Wells, 2d lieutenant; Medad Hunt, ensign.

Peter Curtiss, captain; Daniel Marsh, Jr., 1st lieutenant; John McMurian, 2d lieutenant; Abner Loomis, ensign.

Josiah Hammond, captain; John Hough, 1st lieutenant; Amos Avery, 2d lieutenant; Gamaliel Ripley, ensign.

Amaziah Wright, captain; Squire Hill, 1st lieutenant; Caleb Stanly, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Ephraim Kingsbury, ensign.

**FOURTH BATTALION.**

John Ely, colonel; Samuel McLallen, lieutenant colonel; Benjamin Clark, major.

Ephraim Carpenter, captain; Ephraim Lyon, 1st lieutenant; Thomas Bingham, 2d lieutenant; Timothy Bibbins, ensign.

Jonathan Calkins, captain; John Raymond, Jr., 1st lieutenant; Robert Stanton, 2d lieutenant; Benjamin Atwell, ensign.

Jabez Wright, Jr., captain; Nehemiah Smith, Jr., 1st lieutenant; David Breed, 2d lieutenant; Joseph Gale, ensign.



Ebenezer Holbrook, captain; Benjamin Crary, 1st lieutenant; Mark Evans, 2d lieutenant; John Willee, 3d, ensign.

Jeremiah Halsey, captain; Sanford Billings, 1st lieutenant; Andrew Frink, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Cheesborough, ensign.

Abner Lord, captain; Dan Platt, 1st lieutenant; Abner Griffin, 2d lieutenant; Jonathan Lay, Jr., ensign.

Oliver Grant, captain; Isaac Geer, 1st lieutenant; Joseph Hylyard, 2d lieutenant; Job Sewyard, ensign.

Payno Converse, Jr., captain; David Perry, 1st lieutenant; Asa Lyon, 2d lieutenant; Ebenezer Bingham, ensign.

It was ordered, that the commissions of the aforesaid officers should bear date the 2d day of December, A. D. 1776.

It was resolved, that if Gen. Washington, or the commander of the continental army, near New York, should deem it necessary for the safety of the United States that the troops, or any part of them, who belonged to this colony, should remain in service longer than their enlistment to complete the new army, or other extra emergency; that in such case, the troops were by the Assembly earnestly requested, for the sake of their country, and all its inestimable rights, themselves, and all posterity, to comply with such requisition for so short a time as the general should request; for which continuance in service they were to be reasonably rewarded. The Governor was desired to write the general, and in the most pressing manner, to recommend to said troops to comply with the request of the Assembly.

Bonds, with surety, were ordered to be taken, by the pay table, of the captains of the several companies in the four battalions; and to draw orders in their favor for the premiums ordered to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who should enlist.

The Governor and Council of Safety were ordered to appoint the staff officers for the four regiments so raised as aforesaid, and fill all vacancies that might occur by refusal or otherwise, in the recess of the Assembly.

The Governor and Council of Safety were authorized to supply any town in the State, on application, with such quantity of powder, imported into and belonging to the State, as they should judge proper.

The soldiers in the continental service were suffering for the want of blankets; therefore the Assembly directed the selectmen of the several towns in the State, at the cost of the State, to procure in their respective towns such proportion of blankets, as should be one blanket to the sum of £500 in the general list of such town, in the year, 1775, and to be immediately sent to the army for the soldiers. And it was provided, that if a sufficient number could not be obtained in this manner, that a warrant should issue to supply the deficiency by impressment. And the Governor was desired to send said blankets to the army as fast as procured.

The Assembly resolved to lay a farther embargo upon the exportation, by land or water, of all West India goods, viz: rum, sugar, and molasses, brought into this State, and also New England rum; under the same regulations and exceptions mentioned in the act laying the last embargo. And the Governor was requested to issue his proclamation therefor, subject to the order of the Governor and Council as to the time of its continuance.

The Legislature were informed, that some persons in the State, had large quantities of wheat and flour in their possession, which they refused to sell, and which was greatly needed for public use :—Whereupon, Capt. Jeremiah Wadsworth was directed to seize any quantity of wheat or flour wanted for public service, from any person who had refused to sell the same, (excepting necessary stores for the use of their families ;) and when seized, to pay the owners six shillings per bushel for the wheat, and eighteen shillings per hundred for the flour, and take the same for the use of the army, at the request of the commissary general. Provided, that in case of a refusal to deliver the articles to said Wadsworth, he was empowered to take with him assistance, and break open any shop or store, for the purpose of seizing the property.

To try the strength of such fire arms as should be purchased for the State,—it was provided, that before any gun was purchased, it should be loaded with four inches of powder, and two balls, properly wadded and rammed down, and discharged ; and afterwards twice loaded with a sufficient charge of powder and ball, and fired at a target ; and if guns were found on trial, strong, certain, and direct, in such case they might be purchased for the State.

The Governor and Council of Safety were directed to appoint all the staff officers of the eight regiments ordered raised in October, 1776.

Capt. Ephraim Bill was empowered, by the Assembly, to purchase of the cargo of the prize ship John, for the State, fifty hogsheads of sugar, the whole of the rum of said cargo—two-thirds of said rum to be kept for the State ; and the sheriff was directed not to make sale of the same ; and ordered that the late captain of said ship should be presented with so much of the cargo as he could prove his own private adventure.

Information was given the Legislature, that Lieut. Barker had been sent to New London to propose an exchange of prisoners in the marine department ; upon which information, Col. Erastus Wolcott and Capt. John Deshon were empowered by the Assembly, to consider and determine on the expediency of entering into any negotiation with said Barker on such exchange of prisoners ; but if they should judge best, to enquire after and obtain such marine prisoners as they should be able, and agree on time, place, and manner of exchange, and deal with said Barker as they might deem prudent and best.

Thomas Belding, Esq. was appointed colonel ; John Chester, Esq., lieutenant colonel ; and Howell Woodbridge, Esq., major of the 6th regiment of militia.

The inhabitants of Norwalk shewed to the Assembly, that they were situated upon the sea shore, and were greatly exposed to the depredations of the enemy, and that they needed cannon for their defence, &c. The Assembly desired the Governor to order six cannon, (6 pounders,) with a sufficient quantity of powder and ball, for the defence of said town, to be delivered to the selectmen of Norwalk, at such place as the Governor should direct ; conditioned that said town should mount said cannon on suitable carriages.

Amos Mead, &c., of Greenwich, represented to the Assembly, that Greenwich was situated upon the sea shore, and that the inhabitants had no cannon to defend themselves against the attacks of the enemy ; and asked the Assembly to grant them six small cannon, ball, &c. It was resolved, that the selectmen of said town, upon application by them to Joshua Porter, of Salisbury, should have six small cannon ; and the said Porter was directed to deliver to the selectmen of

Greenwich, on their application. six 4 pounders, with a sufficient quantity of shot for said cannon, to be kept at Greenwich, for the defence thereof ; and the Governor, with the advice of his Council of Safety, was authorized to deliver to the selectmen of said town a sufficient quantity of powder for said guns ; conditioned, that said town should mount said guns on proper carriages for use.

Epaphras Sheldon, Esq. and Capt. John Strong, of Farmington, represented to the Assembly, that the prisoners of war in said town, could not be supported upon the continental allowance ; that the commissary that had been recently appointed by the Assembly, to take care of prisoners, had received no orders from Congress for the regulation of his conduct in the premises ; and that the committee appointed by said Assembly looked upon their powers to act, incompetent to remedy the inconveniences. The committee of prisoners were directed to make such suitable provision for the support of all prisoners of war, that then were, or thereafter should be brought into this State, until said prisoners should be exchanged, or other provision made. And the committee were authorized to take all such measures with regard to said prisoners, as they should find requisite.

Silas Phelps, of Lebanon, was allowed 3 shillings each, for fifty-five gun locks he had manufactured for the State, as a premium.

The committee appointed to consider the expediency of adjourning the Assembly for a short time, in order to resume the consideration of the public affairs of the State—reported, by Jabez Hamlin, Esq., that the situation of the army, the great necessity of providing and forwarding, the raising of the new army, and of putting the militia upon the best footing, and the probability of soon receiving further intelligence from Congress and the army, very interesting to this and the other States, would speedily require a further session ; and therefore that the same should be adjourned to the 3d Wednesday of December (then) next, to be convened at Middletown. It was adjourned accordingly.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### ADJOURNED SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of Connecticut, holden at Middletown, by adjournment, on the 3d Wednesday of December, A. D. 1776.

HON. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Eight Assistants present.

THE Legislature, feeling that it was not only the interest, but the duty of all nations to defend their lives, liberties, and property, against the unlawful attacks and depredations of all enemies, by their militia ; at the same time felt that the

laws then in force, regulating the militia, were not adequate for the purpose of the defence required ; they therefore enacted a law, that all the regiments of militia within the State, should be formed into six brigades, (and in said law, defined the lines of each of the six brigades.) It was enacted, there should be two major generals, to take the command of all the militia in the State, with power to call all or part into service, by order of the Assembly, or the Captain General and commander-in-chief, for the immediate service of this State, or the United States, with one brigadier general for each brigade, &c. And it was enacted, that all male persons from 16 years of age to 60 years, not included in the train band, and exempted from ordinary training, should constitute an alarm list, (except members of council, representatives, and delegates to Congress for the time being, the treasurer, secretary of state, ministers, president and officers of Yale College, negroes, indians, and molattoes,) and should provide for and equip themselves with such arms as the law directed for the train band, and be under the command of the officers aforesaid on an alarm, &c., (provided in said act that all persons over 50 years of age should not be compelled to march out of this State, (or millers and ferrymen to march out of their towns, if the selectmen should judge necessary to excuse them therefrom)—and be formed into companies for an alarm list. And it was made the duty of the captains of said companies to forthwith take an exact list of the names of such as were of the alarm list, and deliver them to the colonel of the regiment where located, and by the colonel, &c., formed into companies in their towns, to consist of 64 privates, as near as might be ; and the companies choose their company officers, and be commissioned.

It was provided, that if any of said companies should refuse to choose their commissioned officers, the field officers of said regiment should appoint them, and if the company should refuse to appoint the non-commissioned officers, the commissioned officers of the company should appoint them. And said several companies of alarm lists, in case of alarm, or orders given by their superior officers to march for the defence of this or any of the United States were to be under the officers of the regiments of the militia in whose limits they resided, and to be liable to be detached or drafted, and to do the same duty on their march, or in service, and suffer the same penalties for not marching, &c., as militia companies were by law liable. And when in service to take rank before the other militia companies, with the privilege of substitutes in case of draft, to the acceptance of the captain, or paying £5 in money to be paid to the town treasurer where said soldier should belong, which should excuse him from service in such detachment. And if a soldier or officer, when detached, deserted or left without leave of his commander, he forfeited £15. The commanding officer of the 6th brigade should order the colonels of the militia in Westmoreland, to receive, and make returns to him. The selectmen to certify who were unable to equip themselves, &c., and equip such at the expense of the town—all fines belonged to the towns where the offender belonged. All captains of militia and other companies, in this act provided, to make returns once in two months to their colonels, of the state of their companies particularly, and the colonels to make like returns to the brigadier general, and each to his superior officer to the Captain General once in two months ; and if a colonel neglected or refused to make such return, he forfeited £10 lawful money. It was provided that said soldiers should be numbered in a muster roll, and called forth by

the officers, and divided into four equal divisions, taking care that those of the same office, family, business, trade, or occupation, should be divided and placed in different divisions. That the turn of duty should be settled by lot; each drawing for himself, from number one to the highest number in the company, and be so placed upon the roll; and all persons to be added at the end of said rolls as fast as they arrived to the age of 16 years. That in case of a draft on the militia, &c., the first on said rolls to be first drafted, and so on from time to time until all of said companies had been drafted, (except as before provided) in case of draft when sick or about to take the next draft. If a non-commissioned officer or soldier should refuse, when drafted to march, the selectmen of his town should hire a substitute, and pay him out of the fines collected in the town. (Mode of trial of delinquents given, and collecting of fines.)

An act was passed to prevent monopolies and oppression by excessive, unreasonable prices for many of the necessities and conveniences of life, which was proving disastrous and ruinous to the country, and particularly in New England; the passing of which law had been recommended to the Assembly by several of the New England States, to prevent the monopolizers in their depredations upon the rights of the people, fixing prices for labor at the different seasons of the year, making the per diem allowance for farmers, in the summer, at three shillings and four pence, and in proportion for other seasons of the year; for the labor of mechanics to be reduced in like proportion; and wheat at six shillings per bushel; good rye, three shillings and six pence; good corn, three shillings per bushel; good wool, two shillings per pound; seven score pork, three pence one farthing per pound—seven to ten, three pence halfpenny per pound—above ten score, three pence three farthings per pound; best grass-fed beef, twenty-four shillings per hundred, and in proportion for stall-fed beef, and in proportion for an inferior quality of beef; raw hides, three pence per pound; well-tanned sole leather, one shilling and five pence per pound; good salt, ten shillings per bushel; good West India rum, six shillings and eight pence per gallon per hogshead—seven shillings and eight pence for a single gallon, and two shillings per quart, and so in proportion, for less, allowing one penny per gallon for every ten miles the same should have been conveyed by land from the first port of delivery, for cost of transporting it;—New England rum of the best quality, three shillings and ten pence per gallon by the hogshead—four shillings per gallon per the barrel, four shillings and six pence by the single gallon where first distilled, and in proportion for smaller quantities, saving one penny per gallon for transportation for every ten miles from the place distilled;—muscovado sugar, fifty-six shillings per hundred per hogshead, sixty shillings per single hundred, and eight pence per pound at the first port of delivery, and nine pence for every ten miles of transport for each hundred weight; good molasses, three shillings and four pence per gallon by the hogshead, three shillings and eight pence per gallon by the barrel, and four shillings by the single gallon, with one penny added as aforesaid; American cheese, six pence per pound; butter, ten pence; peas, eight shillings per bushel; beans, not to exceed six shillings per bushel; Irish potatoes in the fall of the year, one shilling and four pence per bushel, and two shillings in the spring; men's good yarn stockings, six shillings per pair; men's leather shoes, best common sort, eight shillings per pair, others according to value in proportion; barrel pork of 220 pounds not over £4 : 4, per barrel; raw cotton, three shillings per pound by the bag, and three shillings and

eight pence by the single pound ; oats, two shillings ; well-dressed flax, ten pence per pound ; good coffee, one shilling and four pence per pound ; tried tallow, seven pence halfpenny per pound ; good tow cloth a yard wide, two shillings and three pence per yard, and in that proportion for narrower ; coarse linen to be computed after the rate of tow cloth ; good yard wide striped flannels, three shillings and six pence per yard, and other flannels in proportion, and other woolen cloths in like proportion. And as imported goods that had been sold at wholesale at the exorbitant advance of five and six hundred per cent. over their prime cost, and retailed at forty and fifty per cent. in addition thereto, which operated oppressively upon the poor consumer ;—therefore, to correct the evil, it was enacted, that the price of European goods should not exceed the following prices, (viz.) woolen goods, coarse linen duck, ticklenburghs, and osnabergs, not sold higher by wholesale than in proportion of £275 sterling for what cost £100 sterling in Europe, and to be sold no higher if brought in a prize vessel, than £250 sterling for what cost £100 sterling, except warlike stores, the price of which was not limited to an advance over twenty per cent. over wholesale prices, under a penalty for selling any of said articles at a higher price ; and for any article under the price of twenty shillings, a penalty of twenty shillings, and if over twenty shillings, a penalty equal to the price of the article sold, &c.

The act proposing an oath of fidelity was repealed.

A law was enacted, that no person in a sea port town, should, under any pretence, depart from any port, harbor, bay, creek, river, or other place in the State, in any boat, skiff, canoe, &c. without a written license from one of the selectmen of the town from which he should depart. And it was made the duty of the selectmen in said towns, to have all the small craft drawn up in some convenient place, and secure them as the circumstances should require ;—a breach of which law incurred a penalty not to exceed forty shillings.

On account of the extreme hazard and difficulty in importing salt, it was found necessary that some encouragement should be given by the State, to induce its citizens to manufacture it within the State. The State therefore offered a bounty of two shillings upon each bushel of salt made of natural salt water, after the 1st day of January, 1777, and before the 1st day of January, 1779, instead of the one shilling bounty before offered, &c.

The great scarcity of bread stuffs in the State, induced the Assembly to pass an act, forbidding all persons in the State, distilling any spirituous liquors, from wheat, rye, or Indian corn, before the rising of the Assembly, in May, 1777, on penalty of forfeiting four-fold the value of such grain so distilled.

The Treasurer of the State represented to the Assembly, that the public treasury was nearly exhausted, and that there were many pressing demands for large sums of money, and particularly to pay the additional premiums of £10 granted to the soldiers who should enlist into either of the eight continental battalions, (then raising in the State :)—It was therefore enacted, that the State Treasurer was authorized forthwith to execute notes or bills, under his hand and office, to the amount of £60,000, of £10 each, payable to bearer or possessor, at or before three years, with interest at four per cent. per annum, and with the date when issued, (which money or notes the Treasurer was directed to pay to the officers of the eight battalions, in lieu of bills of credit, either of the State or the continental emission, on proper orders made on him,) payable at or before the end of three years. with interest at four per cent., and to bear the date of

the time of issuing, to be made of the same tenor, and in the same manner and form as ordered in an act of the same session, (with the exception of "having received said principal sum of A. B. for the use of said State.") Also is added a provision for punishing offenders for forging or altering said notes, &c.

The commissioners of the (then) four New England States having taken into consideration the necessity and importance of speedily raising and completing their several quotas of the continental army; they decided that a liberal encouragement should be given to such as should freely and immediately undertake in the service for the defence of the country against so grievous and continued oppression; said commissioners therefore unanimously agreed and reported, that each non-commissioned officer and soldier should receive £10, in addition to the premium given by Congress, and one good blanket, or in lieu thereof, \$3 annually, and in camp supplied with all clothing and refreshments at first cost in the several States, without cost of transportation:—which report was accepted, and the Legislature ordered that all able bodied non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who had or should speedily enlist into either of the eight battalions ordered to be raised in October, 1776, during the war or for the term of three years from the time of their enlistment, unless sooner discharged, should receive said premium of £10, and the other encouragement before mentioned, over and above the amount given by Congress. Also license was given to such as had enlisted into either of the four regiments ordered raised in November, 1776, until the 15th of March, 1777, that they might enlist into either of these eight battalions, with the same privileges, (deducting the 40 shillings bounty allowed for enlisting into said four battalions, and also deducting 6 pence per day for the time they should have been enlisted into either of said four battalions.)

It was also enacted, to encourage the militia in actual service for a less time than two months, that the officers and soldiers should be paid the same wages and rations of those of equal rank in the continental army—and if called out for more than two and not exceeding four months, that the non-commissioned officers and soldiers should be paid a bounty of 20 shillings; and if in service five and not exceeding six months, that the non-commissioned officers and soldiers should be paid a bounty of 40 shillings over and above the continental pay and rations. Provided they should in all cases enlist voluntarily, and if not, to receive only continental pay and rations.

The raising and supplying the continental army with the quota assigned to Connecticut, required every exertion of its inhabitants, and not having funds from Congress in any measure adequate for the purpose of paying the bounties, &c., for the troops, Congress found it necessary as an expedient to raise money, to establish a loan office in each State, to receive such moneys as should be offered for a loan to the government. John Lawrence, Esq., (the then Treasurer of the State) was appointed commissioner of said office, to receive all moneys offered for loan; said Lawrence was ordered to immediately issue his proclamation to give notice to all persons who wished to loan money, to lodge the same in said loan office, and receive said commissioner's receipt in behalf of the State for such money, and to promise and assure such persons so loaning said moneys, to produce to them such continental certificates or assurances as by them ordered; otherwise that this State would stand liable and accountable to each person for the respective sums lodged in said office, with the interest, as directed by the resolve of Congress. The said Lawrence was directed to pay



and deliver such sum or sums of the money so lodged, according to the orders of the Assembly, or Governor and Council of Safety, from time to time given, for which it was provided that said Lawrence should be fully indemnified by the State. (The form of which security is given in said act.)

It was resolved, that the wages of the militia officers and soldiers that had marched from time to time, for the relief of any place within the State, should while on their march or in actual service, be allowed at the same rate that the troops stationed upon the sea board had and were then receiving, by order of said Assembly. And that each should be allowed 1 shilling and 6 pence per day while mustering, or on their march to and from the place of their destination, in lieu of all expense for their own support, excepting when they should receive public provisions. And the selectmen of the several towns, who had or should deliver public stores to such militia companies, or accoutrements, or quantities of powder or ball, should forthwith lodge the receipts therefor, or other evidence of it, with the pay table, which was either to be returned or paid for out of the public treasury.

The General Assembly were informed that the British were endeavoring to pass through the State of New Jersey to the city of Philadelphia, and that the inhabitants of Pennsylvania were highly animated and alarmed, and were collecting to join Gen. Washington, with a determined resolution to resist them; that Gen. Lee was in the rear of the enemy, following them with a large body of men; that a fair and hopeful prospect was presented of cutting off and destroying them between the two fires, in case Gen. Lee could be suddenly reinforced; and that there appeared to be a spirit rising in the United States to exert themselves to stop at once and for ever the cruel ravages of their unnatural foes. The General Assembly were ardently desirous to cherish the spirit and zeal so boldly manifested, and did earnestly call upon, and invite any and all able bodied men in Connecticut, residing west of Connecticut river, cheerfully to go forward and offer themselves for the service of their country on so great an occasion, and that they should forthwith form themselves into companies, enrol their names, from forty-five to sixty men in each company, and immediately choose their officers for each company, and march towards Peekskill, with all possible expedition, and receive their commissions on the road, from some of the field officers, and carry with them as much provision as they conveniently could, and receive of their captains 20 shillings each to aid them on their march, and have the same generous pay and wages as had been given to others by the Assembly; with a promise from said Assembly that they should be formed into battalions under the most generous, spirited, and humane field officers, and headed by a brigadier general of the same good spirit, who would lead them to the relief of their bleeding country; assuring said troops that there was great hope that a speedy exertion would be crowned with a happy and glorious success and result; and that they should not be holden in service more than two months, unless their own zeal, ardor, and consideration of the state of the army and love of their country should incline them to continue longer. The Assembly engaged that sufficient provision should be made for them on their march, and generally sheltered in houses, in the *Jerseys*; and prayed to the God of armies to inspire the good people with zeal and resolution on that most interesting and hopeful occasion.



The Legislature resolved, that the field officers of the volunteers aforesaid, proposed to be raised for the relief of Gen. Washington's army, should be appointed from the officers chosen by said companies of volunteers; and that a brigadier general should be appointed, if a brigade should be raised—and the following gentlemen were appointed a committee severally from different parts of the State, west of Connecticut river, to arouse and animate the people to rise and exert themselves with the greatest expedition, to cherish and propagate the spirit, zeal, and ardor for the country; to set on foot with all expedition an enlistment in the various parts of the State; and all friends of the country were earnestly exhorted to lend all their aid to said committee, to promote so great and good a design. The committee were directed to report in as short a time as possible, their progress and success. The committee were, Jesse Root, John Canfield, Tapping Reeve, Lynd Lord, Hezekiah Sabin, Jr., Mark Leavenworth, John Davenport, Thaddens Burr, Daniel Everet, Jr., John Lewis, Oliver Ellsworth, Maj. Nathaniel Brown, Capt. David Landon, of Guilford, Capt. Nathan Hecox, Justus Buck, Eliakim Hall, Jr., Capt. Thomas Porter, Cyprian Collins, Col. Seth Smith, Capt. Dan Towner, Dudley Pettibone, and Ezra Starr. Col. Noadiah Hooker, Stephen Mix Mitchell, and Elijah Hubbard, Jr., Esqrs., were appointed a special committee to forward the raising the aforesaid volunteers to march to the assistance of the continental army as aforesaid.

Jesse Root, Esq., was appointed and empowered to draw the 40 shillings for each non-commissioned officer and soldier, to be advanced to said volunteers, as before provided.

The officers of said volunteer companies were directed to procure carriages for transporting the baggage of their respective companies; and the Governor was desired to take measures to supply said companies with provisions and hospital stores, also with tents and camp equipage.

An act for establishing a loan office in this State, was passed, authorizing the Treasurer of the State, in the name of and on the credit of the State, and for the use of the State, to borrow of any person or persons, inhabitants of the State, a sum of money or bills of credit, emitted by order of the Continental Congress, or the Assembly of Connecticut, to the amount not exceeding £80,000; and to receive no sum less than £10, and to execute his promissory notes therefor, payable at or before the end of three years from date, with annual interest, at 4 per cent.; and it was made the duty of the holder of such notes to present them to the committee of pay table, to be registered, day, date, &c., and endorse or sign the same, as having been exhibited and registered, which certificate, entitled the bearer to the amount of said note or notes. It was ordered, that the amount of said notes registered should be annually exhibited to the auditors of public accounts, and entered to the debit of said Treasurer, and by him accounted for. That the form and tenor of such notes should be numbered, the place and date, the sum and person of whom received. And it was provided, that said notes should be written or printed in a book, properly bound, and cut from said book dent-wise, with the number of said note first made on the counter part or opposite indenture. It was provided also, that forging or counterfeiting said notes, &c., should be punished by the same pains, penalties, and forfeitures as was provided against forging, &c., bills of credit emitted by the Assembly. Also, the Treasurer was to pay out said money according to law, and the orders of the Assembly. As the object of the act was to raise money to

pay the additional bounty to the Connecticut quota of the continental troops, &c., and not to supply the treasury, only in case of necessity. The necessities of the State were such, that the Assembly directed the Treasurer not to open a loan office, or receive money, until further orders from the Assembly, or in the recess, from the Governor and Council of Safety; who were carefully to enquire into and find the state of the treasury, and the demands on it, as well as the supplies which were and could seasonably be obtained to satisfy said demands. And in case the safety and necessities of the public could not, by any other means, be provided for, to give orders to said Treasurer to open such loan office, and borrow as speedily as might be, the sum of £80,000, or such part thereof only as the exigences of the State should require, above what could be otherwise supplied in any of the ways aforesaid.

The following were the officers appointed in the volunteer companies, under the last act for that purpose.

Jesse Root, captain of a company of volunteers raised in Hartford, in pursuance of an act of the Assembly of December, 1776.

William Bull, lieutenant, in a like company of volunteers.

Barnabas Hinsdale, ensign, in a like company.

Ambrose Sloper, (of Farmington) captain of a company; Elihu Moss, (of Farmington) lieutenant; John Clark, (of Farmington) ensign.

Nathaniel Goodwin, captain of a company raised in Litchfield; Alexander Waugh, lieutenant; Ozias Goodwin, ensign.

John Allen, (of Farmington) captain of a company raised in Farmington; John Hart, (of Farmington) lieutenant; Samuel Williams, (of Farmington) ensign.

Hezekiah Wells, captain of a company raised in Wethersfield; John Belden, lieutenant; Chester Wells, ensign.

Noadiah Hooker, captain of a company raised in Farmington; Ichabod Norton, lieutenant; John Porter, ensign.

Hezekiah Sabin, Jr., captain of a company raised in New Haven; James Hillhouse, lieutenant; Nathan Beers, Jr., ensign.

Benjamin Trumbull, captain of a company raised in New Haven; John Gilbert, lieutenant; Joel Bradley, 2d lieutenant; Jared Hill, ensign.

John Yeats, captain of a company raised in Stratford; James Blackman, lieutenant; John Judson, ensign.

William Clark, captain of a company raised in Derby; Edward Howd, lieutenant; Jabez Pritchard, ensign.

Samuel Eells, captain of a company raised in Branford; Samuel Baldwin, 1st lieutenant; Jacob Bunnell, 2d lieutenant.

Benjamin Brownson, captain of a company raised in New Milford; Shadrack Hubbell, lieutenant; Benjamin Seely, ensign.

Medad Hills, captain of a company raised in Goshen, Torrington, and Winchester; Timothy Stanley, lieutenant; John Dowd, ensign.

William Boland, captain of a company raised in Sharon; Hezekiah Frisbee, lieutenant; Azariah Griswold, ensign.

David Bebee, captain of a company raised in Salisbury; Roger Moore, lieutenant; Nathan Dorcy, ensign.

The several volunteer companies, raised for the relief of the continental army, under Gen. Washington, were made a distinct regiment, according to the

tenor and form of their enlistment, and were ordered to be under one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, and one major. And the Assembly appointed Noadiah Hooker, Esq., colonel ; Jesse Root, Esq., lieutenant colonel ; and Medad Hills, Esq., major of said regiment of volunteers.

Jeremiah Wadsworth, Esq., was appointed a commissary of supplies, to receive and deliver over for the use of the troops or militia, then or afterwards raised in the State, all such articles of clothing, refreshments, and other necessities that should be purchased and delivered to him, by order of the Assembly, at such places as were ordered by a resolution of October, 1776, &c. Chauncey Whittlesey, of Middletown, Col. Jonathan Fitch, Andrew Huntington, David Webb, of Stamford, Doct. Joshua Elderkin, and Abel Hine, Esq's., were appointed to procure and purchase for the use of the State, all such articles of refreshment and clothing within the State, as they should be directed by the Governor and his Council of Safety ; and to transport the same to the commissary of supplies, or his order, to such places as the Governor and Council should direct, for the best accommodation of said troops as they might happen to be situated ; to give bond, receive orders, and be accountable. And the Governor and Council of Safety were empowered, if absolutely necessary and expedient for the comfort of said troops, to appoint issuing commissaries to each regiment or battalion of said troops, and to enjoin upon them such rules and obligations, and give such orders and directions as they should think expedient, and consistent with the interest of the State, and best good of the service. The commissary of supplies to receive the same pay and rations as a captain in the continental service.

A resolution passed the Assembly, that for the defence and protection of the sea coast in this State, there should be forthwith raised, by voluntary enlistment, to serve for one year after the 1st day of January, 1777, unless sooner discharged, the several companies and parties of troops and forces, to be kept and stationed as follows, viz : one company of 70 men, including 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 1 ensign, 3 sargeants, 3 corporals, 1 drummer, and 1 fifer ;—one company of 50 men, including one 1st lieutenant, one 2d lieutenant, and 1 lieutenant fire worker, 2 sargeants, 2 corporals. The last company to act as artillerymen or matross, as far as it should be necessary ; and in other cases to do other duties of a soldier, as should be required by their officers on the station. Both of which companies were stationed at New London. There was also ordered raised, two other companies, of the same number of men, and of the same denomination, and for the same purposes as the two companies aforesaid ; and stationed, and to do duty as aforesaid, at Groton. Also, one company of 30 men, including 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 2 sargeants, stationed at the fort at Stonington.—One company of 50 men, including 1 first lieutenant, 1 second lieutenant, and 1 lieutenant fire worker, 2 sargeants, 2 corporals, to do the duty of artillerymen, and other duty as should be required, and stationed at New Haven. It was also ordered, that the cannon at the battery at Black Rock, in said New Haven, should be removed into the town (of New Haven) and placed for the defence of the same. Also, that 15 men, under 1 ensign, and 1 sargeant, should be raised and stationed at Lyme, as ordered in 1775. Also, 20 men, raised and stationed at Saybrook, (to assist the inhabitants thereof, according to an act passed May, 1776,) under a lieutenant, and 1 sargeant. Also, 20 men, raised as aforesaid, under the command of 1 lieutenant, and 1 sargeant, and stationed at Milford. Also, 15 men raised, under 1 ensign, and 1 sargeant, and stationed at Stratford.

Also, 20 men raised, under 1 lieutenant, and 1 sargeant, and stationed at Fairfield. And that all the companies ordered raised and stationed at New London, Groton, and Stonington, should be under the command of a major, appointed for that purpose. And to encourage said enlistments, the following pay, wages, and allowances were offered by the Assembly, viz: a major, £10; captains, £8; lieutenants, £5: 8; ensigns, £4; sargeants, £2: 8; corporals, £2: 4; drummer and fifer, each £2: 4; and privates £2, per callendar month. And as further encouragement, that each non-commissioned officer and soldier, who should furnish himself with a good blanket, should have twelve shillings, and retain the blanket at the end of the service. And such non-commissioned officer and soldier who should provide himself a good gun, bayonet, cartouch box, and accoutrements, to the acceptance of his chief officer, should receive, as a premium, ten shillings, and six pence per day for billeting money, from their enlisting until supplied by the public, and one months advance pay, on their enlisting. And the officers were directed carefully and diligently to attend to the duties of their offices and stations, for the best good, protection, and safety of the towns and places where posted, being liable to be removed or called on special emergencies for the relief of any place on the sea coast, in this State, attacked or in danger of attack, by order of the Assembly, or in their recess, of the Governor and Council of Safety. And it was provided, that the Governor and Council of Safety, in the recess of the Assembly, were authorized to make further regulations and provisions, as to them should appear expedient and necessary for the defence of any of the sea coast aforesaid. And it was further provided, that the militia of the towns of New Haven and New London should hold themselves equipped, and in constant readiness for the defence of their respective towns, and liable to be removed and called out as the necessity of the case might require, for the defence of any other place, as the other militia by law were.

Jabez Huntington, Esq., as chairman of a committee appointed to nominate and arrange the officers for the companies last aforesaid, reported, Jonathan Wells, Esq., of Hartford, a major, to command at New London, Groton, and Stonington.

Adam Shapley, captain of the 1st company of musket men at New London; Ithamar Harvey, lieutenant; Abner Wood, ensign.

Oliver Coit, captain of the 2d company of musket men at Groton; William Latham, lieutenant; Samuel Smith, ensign.

Nathan Palmer, captain of the 3d company of musket men stationed at Stonington; John Belcher, lieutenant.

William Ledyard, captain of the artillery company stationed at Groton; Nathaniel Coit, 1st lieutenant; Jonathan Leeds, 2d lieutenant; Actias Sheffield, lieutenant fire worker.

Nathaniel Saltonstall, captain of the artillery company stationed at New London; Martin Kirtland, 1st lieutenant; Daniel Starr, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Dee, lieutenant fire worker.

John Griswold, ensign, to command at Lyme.

Lee Lay, lieutenant, to command at Saybrook.

Joseph Thomson, captain; Samuel Willmott, 1st lieutenant; Phineas Bradley, Jr., 2d lieutenant; Daniel Bishop, lieutenant fire worker.

John Prudden, Jr., to command at Milford.

Samuel Ufford, Jr., ensign, to command at Stratford.

George Burr, lieutenant, to command at Fairfield.

It being important that the forts at New London, Groton, and Stonington, should be immediately completed and garrisoned; it was ordered, that an entire regiment, including two companies of matross, should be forthwith raised by voluntary enlistment, officered and stationed at the aforesaid places, or such places in the State as the Governor and Council of Safety should direct, in case of emergency, for one year from the 1st day of February, 1777, unless sooner discharged, with the same wages, pay, and allowances, that the regiment stationed at said places had received, viz.: colonel, £15; lieutenant colonel, £12; major, £10; captain, £8; lieutenant, £5:8; ensign, £4; sargeant, £2:8; corporal, drummer, and fifer, each £2:4; privates, £2 per calendar month, with a premium of 20 shillings, and 22 shillings in addition for finding a good gun, accoutrements, blanket, and knapsack, to satisfy his captain, and in proportion for such as he should find, and the blanket to be his; together with one months pay in advance; and to be under the same rules, &c., as continental soldiers. The Governor and Council of Safety was directed to make proclamation for raising said troops, and appoint the officers for said regiment, and order said troops from time to time as they should think proper. Also to state the pay of said matross companies as had not been stated in this bill. It was also resolved, that some troops that had been ordered to be raised and stationed at the aforesaid places, which were insufficient, that said order should be countermanded and repealed, as to their being stationed at either of the places aforesaid.

It was also ordered, that one regiment to consist of the same number of men as the continental regiments, should be forthwith raised in, and kept for the defence of the State, during the war, regulated and officered as should be determined by the Assembly. It was farther ordered, that Col. Ely should be directed to march his regiment immediately to New London, and continue there until further orders. Also to raise and draft, without delay, one-fourth part of the militia, of the 3d, 8th, 12th, 20th, and 21st regiments to be marched and stationed at or about New London, until the aforesaid regiment could be raised, or other measures devised, and not to be held in service more than two months.

A large body of the British army, defended and aided by a strong fleet, had taken possession of the island of Rhode Island, and threatened the invasion of the adjoining States, in New England. It was therefore proposed that committees from the New England States should meet at Providence, in Rhode Island, on the 23d day of December, 1776, to consult for their mutual and immediate defence and safety. And from the operations of the war in New York and New Jersey, a free communication with Congress was in some measure interrupted, and the general and the army of the United States were employed in their defence against the common enemy. Therefore Eliphalet Dyer, Richard Law, Nathaniel Walos, Jr., and Titus Hosmer, Esq'srs., were appointed a committee for Connecticut, to meet the committees of New England, at Providence, or at any other place at the time aforesaid, or as soon as might be, to consult of the expediency of raising and appointing an army for the more immediate defence of New England, against the threatened invasions, as well as for a more general defence in the common cause. To regulate the currency and support the credit of it, and prevent oppressing the soldiers and inhabitants by exorbitant prices, and in general of all measures to expedite the raising an army necessary for

common defence ; and report to the Assembly, or in the recess, to the Governor and Council of Safety, of their doings ; which doings were also directed to be laid before Congress, and ask their directions thereon.

The sick and impotent soldiers of other States, when passing through Connecticut often needed support and relief—the Assembly therefore provided that the selectmen of the several towns should afford necessary support to such infirm soldiers of other States as should pass through this State, who were in the service of the United States, and unable to provide for themselves ; and exhibit the account of such expense to the pay table, acknowledged by such soldier, under his hand, his state, regiment, and company, and the pay table to charge the same to the State where said soldier should belong.

The several regiments of militia, who, in October, 1776, marched to Stamford, Greenwich, &c., and placed themselves under Maj. Gen. Wooster, and faithfully served in defence of the country, in a tedious and expensive season of the year, some of whom had sustained costs by sickness, and on their way home—were considered by the Assembly, by ordering the committee of pay table to adjust and allow all such accounts according to a resolve of the Assembly, in October, 1776, in favor of the militia and new levies ; provided the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who marched in obedience to said order, should produce his discharge, furlough, evidence of his sickness, &c. ; after which that he should be allowed 20 shillings for his extraordinary expenses. And in case any soldier had died in the service, that said 20 shillings should be paid to his heirs, over and above wages and mileage allowed by Congress ; making it the duty of the commanders of the several regiments aforesaid, to return the names of all deserters in their respective regiments to the pay table.

The Assembly resolved, that the stores of medicine, &c., then deposited in Stamford, in the care of Dr. P. Turner, should be removed, in whole or part, to Danbury, at the discretion of the doctor, both as to time and manner of removal ; and that £500 should be advanced from the public treasury to Dr. Turner, to be improved in his department, holding him accountable therefor. An order in his favor for £500, was directed accordingly.

By a previous law of the State, the Treasurer was directed to receive continental bills, instead of bills emitted by this State, ordered to be paid by a tax laid for a sinking fund to meet said bills. It was found that said continental bills did not fully answer for a sinking fund on said tax. The Legislature resolved, that the Treasurer should issue and pay out said continental bills, received as aforesaid, in payment of orders duly drawn upon him by order of the Assembly. Also authorizing the Treasurer to issue his own promissory notes, at 4 per cent. interest, for the redemption of State bills, emitted in April, 1775, as said bills should become redeemable, or to pay the gold and silver he might have in his possession.

The committees of the New England States recommended that Connecticut should furnish, and send as its quota of the army proposed for the defence of Providence against the British then in possession of Newport, the number of 1,092 troops. The Governor and his Council of Safety were therefore empowered to send Col. Ely's battalion, and make up any deficiency so agreed to be sent as aforesaid, out of such troops as they should think best, and in the most speedy way to effect the same.

Eliphalet Dyer, Richard Law, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., and Titus Hosmer, Esq's., the committee before appointed to meet other committees of the New England States at Providence, reported to the Assembly—which report was accepted, signed by said committee, and dated January 4th, 1777. It was resolved, that the Governor should write to the Continental Congress, assigning the reasons and necessity of the meeting of the committee of the several States of New England, at Providence, with a copy of their proceedings.

An embargo was laid on all privateers, and all other shipping, except continental vessels, and armed vessels which belonged to the States, on permission being had from the Governor and Council of Safety to depart; and provided that the Governor and Council of Safety might permit such vessels to sail, as they should judge necessary to import such medicines and other necessaries, as they might suppose were wanted. The embargo was resolved to be continued until the rising of the Assembly, in May, 1777, unless the Governor and Council of Safety should suspend the same sooner.

The article of tanned leather and shoes had become scarce, and greatly wanted in the State. The Assembly laid an embargo upon the exportation of tanned leather and shoes, by land or water, out of the State, until the rising of the Assembly, in May, 1777, under the pains and penalties in an act passed in November, 1776. And the Governor was desired to issue his proclamation, declaring said embargoes.

It was resolved, that the field officers of the four battalions last ordered raised for the continental service, should immediately, and without delay, apply themselves to raising their respective battalions, and take special care that all the enlisting officers under them were encouraged and stimulated to proceed in said business. And that as soon as 20 men in a company were raised, to order them to march and rendezvous at Horse Neck, and be reported to the commanding officer in that quarter.

In June, 1776, the selectmen of the several towns were required to collect the lead in their towns, for the use of the State; and many had neglected their duty: Therefore the Assembly ordered that the selectmen in the several towns should collect the lead in their towns, as ordered in said resolve, and cast the same into bullets, of suitable and various sizes, and render their account to the pay table. And on refusal so to do, and render their account as aforesaid, by the 1st of March, 1777, to forfeit a penalty of £5, and 20 shillings every week after the 1st of March aforesaid, they should continue so to neglect their duty. And the said selectmen were required to apply to the Governor forthwith, for orders on the powder makers for such quantity of powder as they required to supply their town stores according to law, for public use.

Representation had been made to the Assembly, that the prisoners of this and other States, who had unfortunately fallen into the hands of the British in the (then) last campaign, had been treated with great severity, and had suffered extreme hardships and distress, by hunger, cold, and nakedness, and many thereby reduced to sickness, and the sick crowded into heaps, neglected, and left to die for the want of medicine and care: The Assembly therefore appointed each member of said Assembly, a committee, on his return home, for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of said reports, to enquire of such honest and intelligent officers, and other persons in any of their towns, who might have returned from such place of imprisonment, and carefully and cautiously



examine them, as to the treatment of said prisoners, and their sufferings and death, &c. ; and to take it in writing and sworn to, and transmit the same to the Governor as soon as possible, that such use might be made of it as would prevent the like injustice and cruelty in future. It was resolved, that the committee and commissary, appointed to take care of and provide for prisoners taken from the enemy and sent into this State, were directed to state a true account of their number, manner of their treatment, how provided for, and supported, as well as the conduct of such prisoners ; and certify the same on oath, and take the oath of any credible person, and transmit the same to the Governor, as soon as might be.

Capt. Eliakim Hall and Dr. Amos Mead, were appointed a committee to immediately repair to the posts where the troops of this State were stationed east of the Hudson river, or to the most important post, and exert all their influence with the officers and soldiers whose time had nearly expired for which they were engaged, to continue in the service, to defend said posts, until their places could be supplied by others ; and inform them of the measures pursued by said Assembly, by raising four battalions, and the progress therein ; and by encouraging other volunteers, and the great probability of their places being speedily filled. And set before them the dangerous consequences of leaving said posts exposed to the ravages of a watchful enemy,—assuring them that the Assembly would make them a reasonable allowance for such continuance ; and by all lawful means to excite and engage them not to quit the service of their country in so critical a moment, and have the important stores and magazines, prepared for future operations, exposed to be seized and plundered, and retard if not utterly defeat all future operations. And to call upon any of the officers of the four battalions, and charge them to hasten, in the name of the Assembly, to raise their men, and forthwith march to their stations—and report their doings.

The period for which the troops were raised in 1775, for garrisoning the fort at New London, having nearly expired, and the Assembly fearing the new proposed troops to be raised for that post, might fail of being raised seasonably, so that the stores, forts, and towns of New London and Groton might be ravaged by the enemy : Resolved, that Col. Samuel Mott, Capt. William Ledyard, and Capt. Deshon should be a committee to repair forthwith to New London, and apply to Maj. Welles, and the other commanding officers in that department, to use their influence with the men then and there in service, to continue there until new forces could be raised to supply their places. Also for said committee to use all their influence with the officers appointed to raise companies for that service, to raise them with as great despatch as possible, and to enquire as to the military stores, stored at New London, and if not secured, to remove them to some more secure place or places, and make report to the Governor as soon as possible.

The regiment ordered to be raised in May, 1775, under the command of Col. Andrew Ward, was originally designed to have been stationed at Boston, as it was apprehended their service would be less difficult than those raised for the northern and New York departments, and therefore were allowed a less premium ; but as said regiment had been sent to New York, with the other troops, where they then were, and holden by their enlistment until May, 1777, destitute of comfortable clothing for the winter. At the request of the colonel of said



regiment, the Assembly granted all the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of said regiment, who should serve out their time, or be honorably discharged, should be paid a premium of 30 shillings, in addition to other wages, &c. And the Governor was desired to request Gen. Washington to furnish them with necessary clothing out of the continental store, as soon as might be; and if he should not be able so to furnish them, that if consistent with the public safety, to permit said regiment to return to a post, east of Hudson river, as near as might be to this State, that they might the better be enabled to obtain necessary clothing from their friends.

The selectmen of the town of New Haven represented to the Assembly, that flags of truce from the enemy were frequently passing in that harbor, for the purpose of exchanging prisoners; also, that provisions and intelligence might be conveyed to Long Island by the tories, and especially in the defenceless situation of the harbor on account of the removal of the cannon from the fort. The Assembly directed Col. Thomson to replace three cannon, (the property of New Haven,) in the fort, and cause a sufficient number of men of his company to be stationed at said fort, to manage said cannon, as should be required; and that no flag of truce, vessel or water craft of any kind, should be permitted, by the commander of said fort, to pass without an express license from some proper authority. It was ordered, that said company should be allowed at the rate of nine pence per day for billeting themselves, in lieu of rations and other provisions.

John Avery, Jr., of Preston, was added to the committee appointed to procure fire arms in this State.

Information was given to the Assembly, that there was five thousand one hundred and forty pounds of lead in the care of the committee appointed to improve the furnace at Middletown. The committee were directed to procure said lead to be cast into bullets, of suitable sizes, and properly stored, and return the weight thereof to the pay table by the 1st of March, 1777. And the committee of pay table were ordered to transmit an account of the quantity of bullets that should be returned to them, by the selectmen of the several towns in the State, as soon as might be, to the Governor, who with his Council of Safety was requested to make an equal distribution of such bullets to the several towns, according to their lists, and publish the same.

Capt. Samuel Russell, of Middletown, was added to the committee, to procure lead for the use of the State, and work the lead mine in Middletown for that purpose.

The article of cannon being of great importance in the warlike preparations of offence or defence; and particularly as many of our cannon had fallen into the hands of the British, in the last campaign, which rendered them scarce; and as the State had been applied to by the Continental Congress, for a large number to be sent to the northern forts, and for ships of war, and were also greatly needed for the more immediate defence of the State; and the State being unable to procure them only at the foundry, at Salisbury; which foundry was in danger of blowing out unless effectual means were immediately taken to continue the blast of said furnace; therefore Benjamin Henshaw was sent forthwith to Salisbury, to apply to Col. Joshua Porter, manager of said foundry, and afford him all assistance in his power, in inquiring into the condition of said furnace, find what was necessary to be done, and in conjunction with said Por-

ter, to remove every difficulty in the way of continuing said furnace in blast ; procure workmen, materials, implements of every kind needful for carrying on said business, and leave nothing practicable, unattempted, to promote the carrying on the casting of cannon of such sizes as should be directed—(and report make.) And it was further resolved, that Benjamin Henshaw, Hezekiah Fitch, and Lot Norton, Esq's. should have full power to take the wood on a certain fifty acre lot, in Salisbury, the property of James Wadsworth, Esq., to be cut, measured, and appraised, and to pay the owner the full sum of said appraisal ; and to furnish wood and coal at said furnace, and for said purpose to employ wood-cutters, colliers, teams, carters, &c., in said Salisbury, or any of the neighboring towns, and keep and render their account.

The Legislature, during said session, found that a different committee, composed of said Porter, Henshaw, and William Whiting, would subserve the wishes of the State better ; ordered said last committee to prosecute the casting of cannon, at said foundry, and purchase rum, salt, &c., as they should think profitable to execute said purpose ; and the profits of sale, to pay to the State ; also to purchase blankets for the use of the workmen ; and that the pay table should draw on the Treasurer for a sum sufficient for the purpose, and exhibit an account of the avails of said foundry, while they improved it for their own use.

It was found during the session of said Assembly, that difficulties existed in managing said foundry, by a committee ; and said Assembly placed the same under the charge and direction of the Governor and his Council of Safety, who were to take the same into their charge, care, and direction entirely.

Representation was made to the Assembly, that the troops that marched under the command of Gen. Wooster, in 1775 ; also, that Col's. Ward and Waterbury's regiments, who marched to New York, in the year 1776, were billeted upon the inhabitants of the towns of Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich, on their march to New York ; and that said inhabitants had applied to Samuel Squire, commissary, to pay for the same. The Assembly directed said Squire to receive said accounts forthwith, and exhibit them to the committee of pay table for adjustment, and pay said bills.

The Governor and Council of Safety were authorized and directed to employ couriers, and affix their stages, according to the recommendation of the committee of the New England States, at their meeting in Providence, in December, 1776.

The committee of pay table were ordered to draw orders in favor of the commanding officers of the several battalions, then about to march in defence of the country, for such sums as would enable them to pay each non-commissioned officer and soldier forty shillings, in addition to former advancements, to assist them on their march, and render their account.

Information was given to the Legislature, that the keeping and confining prisoners of war, in the gaol at Hartford, was attended with great difficulty, by reason of their intercourse with tories from without the gaol ; and several prisoners had escaped, and great expense accrued to the State thereby. The Assembly therefore ordered a guard to be enlisted, and engaged to keep guard at and about said prison, not to exceed fourteen men, under the command of an ensign and one sargeant ; the number to be at the discretion of the sheriff of Hartford county ; and it was directed that the committee of the pay table should be enlisted to keep guard about said prison for such time as they should judge

necessary, and carefully attend said duty, and obey their commandant, on penalty of forfeiting their pay and wages, and such other punishment as said Assembly should think reasonable; said officers and soldiers of the guard to be exempted from other military duty, and allowed such pay and wages as said sheriff and committee should agree to pay, approved of by the Governor and Council of Safety.

It was resolved, that the Governor should draw on the Treasurer of this State, in favor of Lieut. Col. Elisha Sheldon, who was commandant of a regiment of cavalry, raised by Congress, for the sum of £10,000, money of the State, by request of Gen. Washington, by his letter, dated December 16, 1776.

The proprietors of all powder mills in the State, were directed to give a bond of £2,000, lawful money, to account to the Governor and Company for all salt petre, (the property of the State,) which they should receive to manufacture for the State, into gun powder.

David Wooster was appointed major general over the whole militia of this State.

Hon. Jabez Huntington was appointed second major general over the whole of the militia of this State.

Erastus Wolcott, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the 1st brigade of militia.

James Wadsworth, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the 2d brigade of militia.

Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the 3d brigade of militia.

Gold Selleck Silliman, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the 4th brigade of militia.

Hon. Eliphalet Dyer was appointed brigadier general of the 5th brigade of militia.

Oliver Wolcott, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the 6th brigade of militia of this State.

Jeremiah Mason and William Danielson were appointed colonels of the militia of this State.

Samuel McLellan and Jeremiah Bacon were appointed lieutenant colonels of the militia of this State.

Joseph Abbott, Thomas Bull, Jonathan Welles, and James Clark were appointed majors in the militia of this State.

A tax of 14 pennies on the pound was laid on the general list of polls, &c., in October, 1775, to aid the treasury of the State.

Samuel Abbott, a lieutenant colonel of the 20th regiment of militia, and Jacob Perkins, captain of the 1st company in said regiment, and Samuel Wheat, captain of the 2d company in said regiment, did entirely refuse to obey the Governor, and his subsequent order—and of their colonel requiring them to muster and march their companies for the service and defence of the State. The Assembly ordered said officers arrested and brought before them for trial; and information was given to the Assembly, that said Wheat and Perkins acknowledged their fault, and declared they were sorry for their imprudence and fault, and that they were ready to defend the country with their lives and fortunes; and said Assembly forgave them, and revoked the order of arrest.

Erastus Wolcott, colonel of a regiment stationed at New London and on the sea coast, in 1776, asked for an allowance paid said regiment, (for soldiers enlisted after the 2d of July, 1776); and the Assembly directed the pay table to allow 20 shillings premium to each man not in the matross companies, who enlisted as aforesaid, in said regiment, with full wages who did not supply their own arms.

Exra Hawley and others, of Stratford, represented to the Assembly, that they were greatly exposed to the depredations of the British troops, &c.; and asked them to station a guard of twenty-five men at Newfield harbor. The Assembly ordered said guard of twenty-five men under the command of one lieutenant and two sargeants, and with an order on the foundry at Salisbury, for two cannon (4 pounders) mounted on carriages, with sufficient powder and shot; and Aaron Hawley was appointed a lieutenant to command said party.

John Richardson, of Lebanon, a soldier under Capt. Clark, in Col. Sage's regiment, was taken sick in New York when in service; and was returned as a deserter, and deprived of his wages. On proof offered, the Assembly ordered the pay table to receive his account, and adjust the same, and allow what should be found due thereon, with his reasonable expense of sickness and marching money, and charge to the continental account.

Benjamin Belding and Abraham Gillet, soldiers under Capt. Abraham Pettibone in S. Strong's regiment in the army, at New York, returned home, being sick, with the permission of the captain only, without a discharge; and asked said Assembly for wages; and the pay table was directed to adjust said accounts for each of them until they returned home.

John McKey, of Norwalk, on the 25th day of June, 1776, was adjudged guilty of being inimical to the United States of America, and sentenced to be confined in the common gaol in Litchfield, for one year, and was so committed. He stated that he was induced to commit the deeds alleged against him by the arts of others, and that he had become sensible of his folly, and was then a friend to the liberties of the States. The Assembly ordered that he should be removed from gaol to the town of East Haddam, and there remain under the inspection and direction of the selectmen of said town.

Timothy Cheeney was released from his company in New York, to return home, to make sieves for sifting gun powder: Therefore the Assembly directed the pay table to adjust his account, and allow his wages as they should find due him, and charge the same to the continental account.

Jacob Ely, of Lyme, was (by absence in sickness) returned as a deserter; but the Assembly ordered the pay table to adjust and pay his wages, said Ely accounting for his arms.

Moses Hyde and Daniel Hyde, of Lebanon, on the 17th day of August, 1776, marched to New York under Walter Hyde, as captain, who died on the 12th day of September, at Greenwich, whose wages and marching money were allowed.

Upon information given by Samuel Chapman, colonel of the 22d regiment of militia, that after said regiment marched to relieve the continental army, in August, 1776, Paul Blogget, a captain of a company in said regiment, presented a forged discharge for himself, with the name of Gen. Wadsworth signed to it, by which he attempted to cross Harlem river in a clandestine manner, with a view to desert the army; by which he was considered unworthy of any

further command in said regiment. The Assembly ordered said Bloggot arrested, and brought before the next Assembly for trial.

The Legislature directed the Treasurer of State, to pay Maj. Ebenezer Backus £1,800 to pay the troops of light horse who marched under him, in September, 1776, to the relief of Gen. Washington's army in New York, and to such as again marched under him to Rhode Island, in December, by order of the Governor and Council of Safety on the appearance of the enemy's fleet and army, (which afterwards invaded said Island.)

Stephen Ward, Jr., of Middletown, who marched with the militia to New York, in August, 1776, and while there in service was badly wounded by a flash of lightning striking the house in which he was; and was at the extra expense for doctoring of £12:9. 1; which sum was ordered to be paid him.

The Assembly was adjourned in the usual form to the second Thursday of May, A. D. 1777.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### MAY SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, holden at Hartford, on the second Thursday of May, (8th day of May,) and continued until the 7th day of June, 1777.

His Excellency\* JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Ten Assistants present.

AN act for prescribing and enjoining an oath of fidelity to this State, was passed.

An act was passed to prevent traitorous conspiracies against this or any of the States. It was found there were many persons inimical to Connecticut and the other United States, who travelled the country to spy out the state of the colonies, form traitorous conspiracies against the State, and give intelligence thereof to the British, to the great danger and prejudice of the inhabitants of said State: the Legislature therefore provided that no person, in any character or capacity whatsoever, except persons well known to be friendly to the State; military officers on their march to or from the army, or in defence of the United States; soldiers in company and under the command of such officers, should be allowed to travel or pass from town to town, without a written permit, signed by an assistant or justice of the peace, general or field officers, selectmen, or committee of inspection, certifying where the bearer belonged, the place to which he was

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\* The style and title of His Excellency was first enacted in May, 1777.

to travel, and that he was reputed to be friendly to the States. And assistants and justices were directed to seize every suspected person travelling in the State; and all general and field officers, and all other military officers of the army or militia, of every rank and order within the State, and every selectman, committee of inspection, constable, and grand juror were directed to examine every suspected person who was found travelling in the State. And if said person did not produce a proper permit, he was liable to be arrested, with or without warrant, and brought before the next assistant or justice of peace for trial. And all persons were enjoined to aid said persons in apprehending said suspected persons, on penalty, &c., and if said suspected person should not satisfy such authority that he was friendly to the State, &c., said authority was authorized to bind him or her to his or her good behaviour, or to commit him or her to gaol, there to remain until delivered by due order of law.

It was enacted, that the major generals, or either of them, within this State, should be authorized, with or without orders from the Governor, if occasion should require, upon any alarm or invasion, or notice of the appearance of an enemy, by sea or land, to assemble, and put in martial posture the whole or part of the brigade of militia, of any denomination within the State, which he should think needful; and order and conduct them to relieve any of the inhabitants of the United States, forts, towns, or places attacked by, or in danger of an enemy, as well out of, as in the State, as the case should require, for the safety of the government; and send intelligence to the Captain General, and attend such orders as he or they should receive from him. The same power was given to brigadier generals in their brigades, and proceed in like manner on like occasions, &c.

An act in addition to and alteration of an act of the State, entitled "an act to prevent monopolies and oppression by excessive and unreasonable prices for many of the necessaries and conveniencies of life," was passed.

The Assembly, in October, 1776, passed an act establishing the currency of the bills of credit emitted by the United States, and by the Assembly of this State, and made such bills a legal tender, which bills, with the silver and gold had furnished a sufficient medium of trade. And the Assembly finding that the circulation of bills, issued by other States, had a tendency to depreciate the continental bills, therefore passed an act, that from and after the 1st day of August, 1777, no person in this State should receive any paper bills in payment for any article of commerce or debt whatever, except bills emitted by this State or the United States, on penalty of a sum not exceeding £50, and not less than 40 shillings.

The act passed in December, 1776, against distilling liquors from grain, was continued in force until the rising of the Assembly, in October, 1777.

[The articles and regulations to preserve order and discipline in the militia of the State, when called into actual service, being thirty-six articles, are omitted in this work.]

In Congress, April 25th, 1777, it was recommended to the several States, forthwith to order the sums advanced by them for recruiting the continental battalions raised by the States, with the names of the officers who received it, to be transmitted to the pay masters of such battalions, and they required to call such officers to account therefor; who should produce certificates from the

By reason of the great scarcity of *salt*, the inhabitants of the State were in much distress, and were likely to be reduced to greater want, if some effectual measures were not immediately resorted to for relief: Therefore the Governor and Council of Safety were desired to take the matter into consideration, and concert some proper plan for manufacturing salt, and carry the same into execution, and also for importing salt into the State.

All militia officers of the State, who hold commissions of an earlier date than the Declaration of Independence, were directed to deliver such commissions to the colonel or chief commanding officer of the regiment to which said officers belonged, and receive other commissions under authority of the State. And the Governor was requested to issue new commissions.

The Assembly ordered a company of rangers of 90 men, including officers, immediately raised by voluntary enlistment, within the State, for the defence of this and the United States; to be continued in service until the 1st day of January, 1778; and offered to each non-commissioned officer and soldier a bounty of £3 lawful money, provided they should furnish themselves with clothes, arms, accoutrements, one blanket, and knapsack, with the same pay, wages, and allowances as were allowed by Congress to the continental troops; and said company were made subject to the rules and directions of the Governor, or any other of their superior officers. Sylvanus Mead was appointed captain; Sylvanus Marshall, 1st lieutenant; Jehiel Mead, 2d lieutenant; and Jesse Hait, ensign, to command said company of rangers. Their commissions to bear date the 9th day of May, 1777.

A letter from Gen. Silliman was forwarded to the Governor, which represented that a Mr. Wood, a surgeon's mate, who belonged to the enemy, had been sent to Fairfield with a design to procure leave, to attend the enemy's sick and wounded, at Danbury, and proposing in the name of a Mr. Loring, commissary of prisoners of war, an exchange of prisoners; the Legislature referred the whole matter to the discretion of the Governor and Council of Safety.

Gen. Erastus Wolcott, Capt. Ephraim Pease, Capt. Dudley Wright, Doct. John Dickinson, Mr. Asahel Holcomb, Capt. John Phelps, Gen. James Wadsworth, Mr. Joseph Hopkins, Col. Jonathan Fitch, Col. Samuel Abbott, Mr. Hezekiah Lane, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Mr. Thaddeus Burr, Mr. Ebenezer Hyde, Jr., Capt. Jabez Huntington, Mr. Nathan Frink, Capt. Elisha Child, Col. Ebenezer Norton, Maj. Elijah Abell, Mr. Thomas Mumford, and Mr. Miles Beach, were appointed a committee to procure fire arms and gun locks, with the same powers given to a previous committee appointed for a like purpose. And Elihu Clark, Maj. Nathan Brown, Samuel Smith, Lemuel Stoughton, Isaac Doolittle, Joseph Hopkins, Samuel Noyes, John Raymond, Daniel Judson, Jabez Huntington, Elnathan Walker, Edmond Beach, and Capt. Matthew Gillett, were severally appointed inspectors to examine and approve all fire arms and gun locks that should be manufactured in the State. No arms were to be received or paid for, or premium allowed, until due proof had been made of their inspection, by some of said committee that said guns, &c. were good, well-wrought, strong, and substantially made.

The non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the brigade of militia that had marched to Peekskill, under the command of Brig. Gen. E. Wolcott, were allowed a premium of 20 shillings each. And the commissioned officers in said bri-



gade, that were found supernumerary, under a resolve of Congress, and dismissed, were ordered to be paid their wages, and the Continental Congress charged therewith ; and a suitable person appointed, at the expense of the State, to apply to General Washington for the pay of said brigade.

A letter from Gen. Washington, dated 7th of April, 1777, to the Governor, declining to pay the 10th regiment of Connecticut militia, on account of the great disproportion of officers to soldiers, &c. ; the Assembly therefore desired the Governor to write a letter to Gen Washington, and state the peculiar circumstances of that regiment, and request payment of the General for the officers of the regiment, according to the ranks in which they stood by their military commissions.

It was represented to the Assembly, that several gun smiths, who had been employed by the State, to manufacture fire arms, had grossly imposed upon and defrauded the State, by making poor, deficient arms, totally unfit for service, and productive of fatal mischief to the public : Whereupon the Assembly appointed Col. Samuel Talcott, Col. John Chester, and Maj. Roger Newbury, a committee to inquire into such high handed frauds and misdemeanor, and upon reasonable suspicion, by information or otherwise, to call before them any or every such gunsmith, who had been employed by the State, to hear witnesses, &c., and to take every proper method to discover the frauds, &c. ; and report the same to the General Assembly.

It was directed by the Assembly, that the officers and soldiers of Connecticut, who were engaged in the continental army, in the year 1776, were entitled to the same provisions and allowances for their losses, expenses, &c., and in the same manner and regulations as had been allowed, in all respects, to the officers and soldiers of the new levies and militia ; and the pay table were directed to receive and adjust their accounts, and draw orders accordingly.

The Assembly took into consideration the resolve of the Continental Congress, of the 26th day of August, 1776 : Whereupon the Assembly resolved, that the committee of pay table were appointed, and fully authorized, to receive and examine the evidence produced by such persons, if inhabitants of this State, or others who had or should serve in any of the battalions raised in Connecticut for continental service, and who were, at the time of receiving their wounds, serving in any of said battalions, and should claim a pension, by said resolve of Congress, and grant the same to all such as should make proof, as therein provided. And the committee of pay table were directed to preserve the evidence, in all cases, where such support should be allowed, either in part or whole, of his half pay, and register the same. The support allowed to such wounded and disabled person, and report quarterly to the secretary of Congress, or board of war, as provided in said resolve. And it was provided that all commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers of the army or navy, private soldiers, marines and seamen, raised in Connecticut, and not of the continental army or navy, who had or should be wounded in any action, and so as to be disabled from getting a livelihood, upon producing certificates, as provided in said resolve of Congress, to the committee of pay table, examined and found true by them, should be entitled to the same pension as was provided by said resolve ; and to be continued during his said disability or for life. And the pay table were directed to register the same, with the name of the person claiming said pension, his place of residence, of the company and battalion, or ship of war or armed vessel, to



which he belonged at the time of receiving his wound, with the place where and time when he received the same, and what support had been adjudged to him, as provided in said resolve of Congress.

It was found necessary, and recommended by Congress, that a commissary of prisoners of war should be appointed in each State: Wherefore the Assembly appointed Ezekiel Williams, Esq. a commissary of prisoners in this State, in the place of Epaphras Bull, who was then serving as a captain in the continental army, who was to take charge and care of all such prisoners of war as were within the State, or should be thereafter within the same. And said commissary was enjoined to observe all such rules and orders as should, from time to time, be made by the Assembly, the Governor and Committee of Safety, or Congress, regarding such prisoners; and make monthly returns of the condition of said prisoners, to the board of war, appointed by Congress.

The Governor was desired by the Assembly, to take his own measures to purchase for the use of the State, a quantity of lead imported in a prize ship, taken and brought in at the eastward, by the brig Fanny, Capt. Whittlesey, commander.

The Assembly ordered 1000 copies of the Articles of War to be printed, and to be printed in all the gazettes in the State; and one copy to be delivered to each officer in service in the State, and read before each company by the captains of said companies; and one copy to each field officer in the militia in this State.

The Governor and Council of Safety were desired to devise some equitable rule to distribute such salt as should be imported, at the expense of the State, amongst the inhabitants of the several towns, in proportion to the number of inhabitants in each town.

The per diem allowance for each of the Council, was fixed, by the Assembly, at 12 shillings, they bearing their own expenses.

General Washington, in his letter of the 23d day of April, 1777, to Brig. Gen. Parsons, (which was laid before the Assembly,) recommended that attention should be paid by Connecticut to the case of the prisoners from New York, and the legal representatives of those who died during their captivity. Upon which, the Assembly directed that the pay table should receive and adjust the accounts, and give orders for the payment of such wages as were due to any prisoners of this State, or their legal representatives, from the time of capture until released, and a reasonable time to return, or until their death; and to each account affix the affidavit of such prisoner; also time and place of capture, when released, to what regiment and company he belonged, and had received no pay from the United States for the time he was in captivity. And a like certificate where a prisoner died in captivity, to the best information of the legal representative who should apply. A duplicate of which settlement and account was directed to be made, and the original transmitted to Gen. Washington, to procure a reimbursement of the same.

The Governor was requested by the Assembly, to write, and send by an express, to the members of Congress of this State, then at Congress, and request them to procure all such evidence as might be collected, of Col. Dewar, or any other quarter, respecting any secret plots and conspiracies that existed in this State, against this or any of the States, either by receiving protection from Lord or Gen. Howe, or any other person aiding or assisting in the distribution of such protections in any other way, or any plot or conspiracy whatever; and transmit

to the Assembly or Governor and Council, a particular account thereof, by said express, as soon as might be.

It was represented by Gen. Silliman, to the Assembly, that a flag of truce had lately arrived at Norwalk, by permission from Admiral Howe, commander of the fleet of the enemy off New York, under protection of which, Daniel Ketcham and Andrew Bennett, two inhabitants of, and owing allegiance to this State and the United States, who had previously deserted, and gone over to and taken part with the enemy against their country; had come to said Norwalk, in order to convey from said town and Fairfield the families and effects of Benjamin Jarvis, Samuel Hitchcock, James Ketcham, and Nathaniel Williams, who had also deserted and gone over to the enemy. Gen. Silliman having before signified to the enemy, that they ought to desist sending persons who were deserters to any part of this State under the protection of a flag; and said Silliman asked directions of said Assembly as to his duty towards said deserters then in his custody. The Assembly, on consideration of the uncertainty whether Gen. Silliman's letter, disapproving the enemy's sending a flag by deserters of their country, and aiding the army of the British, was before the flag was sent; the general was therefore directed to permit said Daniel and others, to return in said flag. But said Assembly judged it inconsistent with the honor of the law and the rules and customs of contending powers, as well as unsafe to permit such deserters to pass and repass under the protection of flags of truce; and therefore directed Gen. Silliman to publish, by the return of said flag, or in the most effectual way, that thereafter that no deserters should be permitted to come into Connecticut, under color of the protection of a flag of truce, on the pains of being detained, and dealt with according to the laws of this State. Also that the females of the persons applied for, should not be permitted to go to their friends within the enemy's lines, unless an equal number, who had been captured by the enemy, of our inhabitants, not under arms, and carried off, should be exchanged; and that even in such case, that no property, except necessary clothing, should be taken with them; and that no male person, able to bear arms, should be permitted to go; and Gen. Silliman was directed to proceed accordingly. The Assembly resolved, that the aforesaid instance of suffering said deserters to return, should not be considered as a rule of conduct in like cases in future, least the enemy should be encouraged to make their inhuman incursions into the country, captivate, and carry away families and persons not under arms, contrary to the custom and usage of civilized nations.

The Legislature had directed the committee of pay table to draw on the Treasurer for wages due the officers, &c. who were prisoners at New York, and paid in hard money. It was resolved, that the Treasurer, to procure the sum of £400 hard money, should give his note, with lawful interest, for the purpose aforesaid.

An act to exempt non-commissioned officers and soldiers, of the continental army, from imprisonment for debt, originally due by contract, and a release from imprisonment of all such as were then in prison for debt; making such officers and soldiers, liable for the payment of such debts after their release from the army.

Representation had been made to the Assembly, that many atrocious acts of robbery and theft had lately been committed, in the western part of the State, by some of its own inhabitants, and that those who had been the sufferers were greatly distressed. The Assembly directed the attorneys for the State, in the

counties where such depredations had been committed, forthwith to exert themselves with the utmost attention and vigilance, to enquire after and prosecute all such breakers of law, and said offenders brought to condign punishment, and all the people of the State protected in their rights, liberties, and privileges. And the judges of the county and superior courts were directed to hold special courts forthwith, for the purpose of carrying said resolve into full effect.

The Assembly appointed the Hon. Matthew Griswold, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, William Williams, Titus Hoemer, Benjamin Payne, Gen. James Wadsworth, Benjamin Huntington, William Hillhouse, Thaddens Burr, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Daniel Sherman, and Andrew Adams, a Council or Committee of Safety, to aid the Governor in the recess of the Assembly, with full power to direct the militia and navy of the State, and the marches and stations of such troops as had been, or should be enlisted for the defence of any of the States; to give orders for supplying the militia, troops, and navy as far as needful; directing the Governor to convene all his said Council on all important occasions; but where great despatch was required on smaller matters, a smaller number were authorized to do the business; but at no time less than five to form a quorum to do business.

The Assembly directed the Governor to issue a proclamation, assuring pardon of all treason relative to joining the enemy, to all such inhabitants who had absconded, as should, on or before the 1st day of August, 1777, appear in this State, before an assistant or justice of peace, and take a proper oath of allegiance to be true to the State, and declare that they discard all connexions with the enemy, and will obey the laws of the State; that each inhabitant so returning and confirming should be freed from prosecution, and protected in his rights and liberties.

The Assembly appointed Roger Enos, Esq., colonel of one of the battalions ordered raised for the defence of this State, until the 1st day of January, 1778.

Peter Curtiss, Abel Pettibone, Elijah Robinson, and James Smith, captains in said battalions.

Thomas Stevens, Jonathan Roberts, Eliphalet Chamberlin, Edward Payne, and Nathaniel West, 1st lieutenants in said battalions.

Samuel Smith, Ephraim Taylor, Abner Granger, Noah Dickinson, and Nathaniel Churchill, to be 2d lieutenants in said battalions.

Benjamin Holcomb, Joshua Gates, Jr., Samuel Akins, and John Francis, to be ensigns in said battalions to be raised as aforesaid.

James Arnold, was appointed lieutenant colonel of one of said battalions.

Nathaniel Bunnell and Augustus Collins, to be captains; Abner Bradley, 1st lieutenant; Amaziah Baldwin and Jabez Pritchard, 2d lieutenants; Levi Gaylord and David Scranton, ensigns in said battalions.

Seth Smith, Esq., lieutenant colonel in said battalions; Edward Rogers, Abraham Bradley, and Reuben Bostwick, captains; Noah Jackson and Roger Moore, 1st lieutenants; Ebenezer Miller and Stephen Dodge, 2d lieutenants; David Rusco, Ezekiel Lewis, and Israel Williams, ensigns.

John Ely, Esq., colonel of one of said battalions; Nathan Palmer and Josiah Baldwin, captains; John Shipman and Solomon Story, 1st lieutenants; Richard Chapman and Joseph Chapman, 2d lieutenants; Clement Miner and John Griswold, ensigns.

Major Elias Buell, to be major ; James Dana, of Mansfield, and John Keys, of Ashford, and Ebenezer Mosely, of Windham, captains ; Ebenezer West, of Lebanon, Josiah Cleveland, of Canterbury, and Asa Lyon, of Woodstock, 1st lieutenants ; Joseph Hale, of Coventry, Joshua Bottom, of Plainfield, and Lemuel Grosvenor, of Pomfret, 2d lieutenants ; Benjamin Converse, of Killingly, John Wylee, of Voluntown, and Jabez Clark, of Lebanon, ensigns.

John Davenport, Jr., major in said battalions ; Jesse Bell and Stephen Thorp, captains ; Caleb Church and Solomon Booth, 1st lieutenants ; Ezra Benedict and Bille Trowbridge, 2d lieutenants ; Job Smith, Jr., and Martin Warner, to be ensigns, in said two battalions to be raised in Connecticut.

Hon. Jabez Huntington was appointed one of the Council of Safety for the (then) ensuing year.

Lieut. Col. Selah Hart, of Farmington, preferred his petition to the Assembly for himself, and about thirty-eight other continental officers, who had been taken by the enemy, and confined as prisoners of war, on Long Island ; in which it was shown to said Assembly that said officers and their families, were reduced to great distress, by means of said officers being held in captivity, many of them from the 15th of September, 1776, until May, 1777, and had received no wages or allowance from the United States, and had expended all their money, and were in debt and destitute of subsistence ; that they could procure no hard money, and that paper money would not pay their debts, &c. ; and asked relief of the Assembly, as by a list of said officers' names lodged on file. The Legislature ordered the committee of pay table to adjust said officers' accounts, and allow them the same wages, during their captivity, as had been allowed officers of their rank in the continental army, when captured, and pay the same to said Hart for their use, or such part of it as should appear necessary for their relief, if their wages had not been before paid them. And was also directed to make payment, or a part thereof, in hard money, and for that purpose to draw on the State Treasurer for the same, or bills of credit, to exchange for hard money, and charge the same to the United States.

The Assembly offered a bounty of 1 shilling, to be paid out of the State treasury, for each pound of salt petre manufactured in the State.

John Chenevard and James Church, were appointed to be of the committee of pay table.

The committee of pay table were empowered to appoint one or two clerks in their office.

The Assembly ordered, that thereafter, the militia of the State, (officers and soldiers) in actual service, should receive the same pay, rations, &c., as was or should be allowed by Congress to the continental troops of like rank ; provided said militia should not be allowed pay for more than a reasonable time, after orders to march, before they should march, (not exceeding four days.)

Wait Goodrich, Dr. Eneas Munson, Constant Southworth, and Col. Joshua Porter, were appointed inspectors of gun powder, made in the State, and inspectors of salt petre at the powder mills in this State.

The committee to procure fire arms for the State, were ordered to account with the pay table ; deliver said pay table the number of arms purchased, where lodged, and how disposed of ; which said pay table was directed to lay before the Assembly, that a just distribution of the arms might be made to the towns.

Fifty men in the foundry at Salisbury, were exempted from drafts for filling the army or actual service in the militia, while employed in said foundry.

On report of the committee, appointed to investigate the subject matter of the memorial of Nathaniel Jones, Simon Tuttle, Joel Tuttle, and others, of Farmington, who were imprisoned on suspicion of their being inimical to America; the Legislature ordered said prisoners liberated, upon their taking the oath of fidelity to the State, and paying the cost, taxed at £22 : 7 : 10; and the keeper of the gaol, in Hartford, was, on said condition being performed, to liberate said prisoners.

The Assembly received information that frequent incursions had been made by the British into Greenwich, and towns adjacent, and had taken cattle from the inhabitants: Therefore the Assembly requested the Governor to direct Gen. Parsons, to order 400 of the continental troops, raised in Connecticut, to be detained in Greenwich, and parts adjacent, for the defence of said inhabitants.

Several complaints had been made to the Assembly, that a number of military companies and officers in this State, had conducted improperly; wherefore the Assembly appointed Col. Nathaniel Terry, Col. Isaac Lee, and Col. John Chester, a committee, to enquire as to those complained of in the county of Hartford, and make report to said Assembly. Col. Joshua Porter, Edward Rogers, and John Watson were a committee to enquire, in the county of Litchfield. Col. Nehemiah Beardslee, Col. Thomas Fitch, and Maj. Elijah Abell, to enquire in the county of Fairfield, and make report as aforesaid.

The Hon. Jabez Huntington was appointed first major general, over all the militia in the State, to fill the vacancy of Maj. Gen. Wooster, deceased.

Brig. Gen. James Wadsworth was appointed second major general, instead of Maj. Gen. Huntington, advanced.

John Tyler was appointed brigadier general of the 3d brigade of militia.

Andrew Ward, Jr., was appointed brigadier general of 2d brigade of militia.

John Douglas was appointed brigadier general of the 5th brigade of militia, in the place of Gen. Dyer, resigned.

Jonathan Johnson, of Middletown, stated that he, as a captain in Col. Bradley's regiment, while stationed at fort Lee, the morning before said fort was attacked, had left in his custody £36, owned by the State, to pay the bounty and advanced pay to soldiers; which money was left with his baggage, under two soldiers who were taken prisoners, and soon died; and that the £36 were lost. The Legislature ordered said sum to be passed to the credit of said Johnson, on the books of the pay table.

David Osborn, of New Haven, shewed to the Assembly, that on the 8th day of April, 1777, John Wise, of New Haven, by warrant, impressed his mare, for J. M. Green, an express, on business from Gen. Washington to Providence; and that said Green never returned the mare by post, nor delivered her to Gen. Spencer as he agreed. The Assembly directed the pay table to examine the claim, and allow said Wise what they should find just and reasonable.

The selectmen of the town of Danbury informed the Assembly, that the British troops had made a hostile invasion into said town, and that under a pretence of destroying public stores, consumed with fire about twenty dwelling houses, with many stores, barns, and other buildings; and that the enemy on their retreat, collected and drove off all the live stock, viz.: cattle, horses, and sheep which they could find; and that the destruction of said property had

reduced many of the wealthy inhabitants to poverty; therefore applied to the Assembly to appoint a committee to enquire into and estimate the losses of each person in said Danbury and report the same; and aid such as could not subsist without immediate relief, as per petition, dated May 8, 1777. The Assembly therefore appointed Daniel Sherman, Colonel Nehemiah Beardslee, Increase Mosely, and Lemuel Sanford, or any three of them, a committee to estimate the losses of each person occasioned by the incursion of the British troops into said town, and report to said Assembly, so that the actual loss by the ravages of a merciless enemy should be perfectly known. The pay table were directed to draw an order on the Treasurer for the sum of £500 in favor of the selectmen of said Danbury, to relieve the immediate distresses of such persons who were sufferers in Danbury, as aforesaid, who could not subsist without such relief.

Hannah Barker, of Lebanon, shewed the Assembly, that on the alarm which occurred in September, 1774, in relation to an attack by the British troops on the town of Boston, that a large number of the militia from Colchester and East Haddam, on their way to the relief of the Bostonians, called upon her for supplies, which she furnished them, refreshments of the value of £4:6:4, which they did not pay for. The Assembly directed the payment of said sum, on account of the need of said Barker; and directed that the case should not be a precedent thereafter.

Lieut. Col. Stephen Moulton, who was taken a prisoner in September, 1776, on his retreat from New York, and held as a prisoner until January, 1777; that during his imprisonment, he was necessitated to borrow hard money of Major Welles, who continued a prisoner in New York, and required the hard money of said Moulton. The Legislature ordered £15, in hard money, to be paid said petitioner, in part of his wages, by the Treasurer's giving his note for said sum.

Samuel Abbott, of Lebanon, on the 13th day of May, 1775, enlisted a soldier in Capt. James Clark's company, in Gen. Putnam's regiment, for a term not exceeding seven months; and soon marched to the camp in Cambridge, in Massachusetts, and joined said Regiment, and did duty as a soldier, until the 1st day of December, 1775; he then left the camp without leave, and returned home, and by so conducting had forfeited his billeting, marching money, and wages then due. The Assembly found that said Abbott fully believed, when he left the camp, that the time of his enlistment had expired; therefore ordered full payment of his wages, &c.

Joseph, Thomas, Rutherford, and Daniel Trowbridge, and William Sherman, of New Haven, shewed they had made 500 bushels of good salt, and asked for the premium thereon; and the Assembly ordered them paid from the treasury, £100 lawful money.

Aaron Ives, of Wallingford, stated that at the alarm in Danbury, he volunteered and went to Compo, and was in the engagement at Compo hill, where he was wounded in his leg, by which misfortune when he was helped from the battle field, his horse was missing, with his saddle, bridle, great coat, blanket, and a bag with three days provisions, which horse he afterwards found, but lost the other articles; which was ordered paid by said Assembly, after an adjustment of said account.

Judah and David Leaming, of Farmington, were committed to gaol in Hartford, for words and conduct inimical to the United States; who stated to said Assembly that in their cool, retired, and deliberate moments they felt the highest



regard for their country, and its liberties. Upon the report of the committee before appointed to enquire into the Farmington cases, reported that they gave due notice to Solomon Whetmore and Timothy Root, selectmen, and Ebenezer Hamlin and Simeon Hart, committee of inspection, to appear at David Bull's in Hartford, with their evidence against said Judah and David ; and said town did not appear, but the material facts were found true against them ; and said Judah and David were very penitent and sorry for their unworthy conduct, and said they were willing to defend their country with their lives and fortunes. The Assembly ordered the keeper of the gaol, in Hartford, to release said prisoners, upon their paying all costs.

Zephaniah Whipple, of Norwich, was allowed £2 : 10, for the loss of his gun by mistake, while he was under guard.

Timothy Bishop, of Guilford, stated that his wife was employed by the selectmen of Durham, in January, 1777, to nurse two prisoners, from New York, sick of the small pox ; and that by cleansing their clothes, she was taken with a fever, away from home, and cost said Bishop £8 : 6 : 4 ; which sum he prayed should be allowed to him ; and which was ordered by the Assembly to be adjusted and paid.

On a memorial of Israel Dodge, Thomas Mason, George Dodge, and George Williams, of Salem, in the State of Massachusetts, asking said Assembly to pay them a judgment they had recovered against the estate of Joshua Winslow, deceased, of Boston, £637 : 6 : 1½, out of the proceeds of the sale of the brig Nancy and her cargo, brought into Norwich, as a prize vessel, in the year 1775 ; the avails of which had been taken for public use, &c. ; which sum the Assembly directed the Treasurer to pay to said Dodge and company.

Joseph Hull and Philip Redfield, of Killingworth, marched in Col. Ward's regiment, in February, 1776, as far as Stamford, on their way to New York, under Gen. Lee, and were there ordered on board Capt. Selleck's privateer, and served there six weeks, and were then discharged, without pay. The Assembly directed the pay table to examine and pay said accounts for service in said privateer.

The first battalion of volunteers under Col. N. Hooker, who engaged in December, 1776, by an invitation of said Assembly, in the service for two months, and equipped themselves with arms, &c., asked the Assembly to allow them a premium. The Assembly directed 20 shillings to be paid each non-commissioned officer and soldier, who engaged for and served two months in said battalion.

Upon the memorial of Samuel Holden Parsons, Esq., who shewed to the Assembly, that in April, 1775, he, together with Col. Samuel Wyllys, Silas Dean, and others, undertook the surprising and hazardous seizing the enemy's post, at Ticonderoga, without the knowledge of said Assembly ; and for that purpose took a quantity of money from the treasury, and gave their receipt for the same, and expended the whole of said money in said service ; and asked said Assembly to order said receipts to be cancelled or given up to them ;—which order was made, conditioned, that they should exhibit and lodge with the pay table the accounts and vouchers of their depositions and expenditures of the sums contained in said receipts, viz : one receipt dated 15th of May, 1775, for £10, signed Samuel Bishop, Jr., William Williams, and Samuel H. Parsons ; one dated 28th of April, 1775, for £200, signed Thomas Mumford, Samuel H. Parsons, Silas Dean, and Samuel Wyllys ; one of the same date, for £100, signed Tho-

mas Mumford, Adam Babcock, Samuel H. Parsons, and Silas Dean; and one dated May 17, 1775, for £500, signed Joshua Porter, Thomas Mumford, Jesse Root, Ezekiel Williams, Samuel Wyllys, and Charles Webb. And the pay table were directed to charge the amount of said sums to the continent, when delivered to the signers thereof.

A premium of £10 : 13 : 6, was directed to be paid to Elijah Calkins, of Sharon, on 213 pounds of salt petre, manufactured by him, before the 1st of January, 1777.

Thomas Bell, of Lebanon, in January, 1776, was appointed a lieutenant in the continental army, in Capt. Throop's company, in Col. Burrall's regiment, and joined the army in the northern department, and continued there until the 30th day of May, 1776, and was then taken with the small pox, at the River Sorrell; and said regiment being on their march, left the petitioner destitute, either of hospital, physic, or nurse, which he provided at his own expense, being about £12, lawful money. The Assembly directed the Treasurer to pay said Bell, £12.

John McLean, Eli Mygatt, and others, selectmen of Danbury, in Fairfield county, stated to the Assembly, that the enemy, in their incursion into Danbury, burned and destroyed the public records of said town, and they apprehended great damage might arise to the inhabitants, unless some timely remedy should be provided. The Assembly appointed Daniel Sherman, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Increase Moseley, and Lemuel Sanford, to repair to Danbury, as soon as might be, and notify the inhabitants of said town, and by all lawful ways, inquire into and ascertain every man's right, and report to the next General Assembly.

Capt. Joshua Huntington, agent to build a continental ship, in Norwich, was in great want of locust timber for trunnels for said ship; and the Assembly was informed, that it could be found on a farm, in New London, formerly owned by Capt. Oliver, deceased, and then owned by one Oliver, of Boston, or Dr. Thomas Moffatt, both of which were then with the enemy; and liberty was asked of said Assembly to cut the needed quantity. And the Assembly authorized said Huntington to enter on said farm and cut such quantity of locust trees, for the purpose mentioned, as he should think was needed, and keep an account thereof, to be appraised by the carpenters of said ship, and to be rendered when called for.

The selectmen of Ridgefield represented to the Assembly, that the British, on their incursion to Danbury; on their return, passed through said Ridgefield, and on their way burned many dwelling houses, and other buildings therein, and killed and drove away many of their cattle, and plundered the inhabitants of all their provisions, and much of their clothing, whereby many of the inhabitants were reduced to such indigence, poverty, and distress; to provide for themselves they could not, and said town could not afford them adequate relief. The Assembly appointed the same committee as had been appointed to repair to Danbury, to estimate the losses of each person in Ridgefield, that had been sustained by the hostile measures of the British troops, and report to a future Assembly; so that the actual loss the unfortunate sufferers had sustained by the ravages of so merciless an enemy, should be known, and made thereof to any future Assembly. And the Assembly directed the pay table to draw an order on the Treasurer, in favor of the selectmen of said town, for the sum of £250, to be



used in relieving the distresses of such persons, that were sufferers, as could not subsist without such relief; and render their account when called to do so.

Thaddeus Benedict, of Danbury, represented to the Assembly, that the British troops, when in Danbury, burned his dwelling house, and several other houses kept for public entertainment; and stated that he had provided a convenient house in the centre of said town, and asked for a license to keep a public house; which was granted by said Assembly.

Mary Hoyt, the wife of Isaac Hoyt, then late of Danbury, shewed to the Assembly, that she had ever been a good whig, and a true friend to the rights of her country, and that her husband, when the enemy entered said Danbury, being an enemy to his country, went off and joined the British, by which he had justly forfeited all his estate, both real and personal; and that the selectmen had seized upon all the personal estate of her husband, by means of which she was deprived of the necessaries of life; and asked the Assembly to order that one-third part of all the clear moveable estate should be given to her, and the use of one-third part of all the real estate, for her natural life, for her support. The Assembly ordered that said Mary Hoyt should have and enjoy one-third part of the personal and real estate, during the pleasure of the Assembly.

Absalom Stockwell, of Killingly, on the 9th day of May, 1775, entered the service of this State, and went to Roxbury or Cambridge, in Massachusetts, in defence of their just rights, to serve seven months; and did so serve until the 2d day of December then next, and then imprudently left the service without a discharge, but had been twice in service at Roxbury afterwards, and was a friend to his country. The Assembly directed the pay table to draw an order in his favor, for such sum as they should find due.

Joseph Seymour, Jr., was sentenced to two years imprisonment in Hartford gaol, for inimical practices, and fined £20. He stated he had faithfully served the United States, and yet repented of his conduct, and promised reformation; and asked to be liberated from prison upon his enlisting into the continental service; which the Assembly granted, on condition of his so enlisting, and paying the cost of prosecution.

Ebenezer Stevens, of New Fairfield, in August, 1776, on the march of the militia to New York, let his horse and saddle to aid in carrying the baggage of Capt. Bradley's company to New York—both of which were lost. The Assembly allowed said Stevens £12 : 10 lawful money for said horse and saddle.

Josiah Hall, of Wallingford, rode on horseback to aid the troops of Connecticut, when they pursued the British troops on their retreat from Danbury; he rode within half a mile of the action at Compo, there left his horse, and engaged the enemy, for some time; but at last retreated to his horse and mounted him, and soon said horse was shot under him, by the enemy. The Assembly ordered the said Hall paid for said horse, the sum of £10 lawful money.

Thomas Mumford, Esq., of Groton, with other merchants of this State, had a large quantity of English goods at Bedford, in Massachusetts, which had been taken by their privateer, the Fanny, in a prize ship. He also had a cargo of salt imported at said Bedford; and asked liberty to import said goods and salt into this State. The Assembly directed the Governor to write to the Assembly, or in the recess of the Assembly in Massachusetts, to the Council of said State, and request them to permit said goods, or any other captured goods in the

ports of that State, by merchants of Connecticut, to be transported, by land or water, into this State, for the necessary supply of the inhabitants, any embargo of said State notwithstanding.

John McKee stated to the Assembly, that in June, 1776, he was convicted of harboring and secreting some prisoners who were about to join the enemies of the United States, and sentenced to one years imprisonment, and forfeited all his estate; that he was so committed at Litchfield, and there remained until the 24th day of February, 1777, when the Assembly ordered him to be removed to East Haddam, there to be confined within the limits of said town; that he was heartily convinced of the iniquity of his conduct, and was ready to serve his country in supporting their glorious cause. The Assembly gave said McKee liberty to return to his family, and use his forfeited estate during the pleasure of said Assembly, upon his paying such cost as had accrued by his confinement in East Haddam.

John Thomas, of Roxbury, enlisted on the 28th day of June, 1776, for the northern department, under Capt. Lacy, in Col. Swift's regiment, and marched on the 18th of July, and joined his regiment at Skeensborough, on the 30th of July, and served until the 5th of September, 1776, when he was sick with the camp distemper and returned home, (and was returned as a deserter). The Assembly ordered his account of wages, expenses of sickness, and mileage until he returned home, allowed by the pay table, if found due.

Jonathan Bull, of Hartford, shewed that one of his family had taken the small pox, by means unknown to him, whereby his family and Widow Sarah Butler, and three of the family of Moses Butler, had been exposed; and asked liberty of the Assembly to inoculate them; which was granted under such regulations as the selectmen of Hartford should direct.

Roger Veits, of Simsbury, (clerk) was sentenced in January, 1777, to one years imprisonment, and fined £20—and the Assembly enlarged his confinement in prison, and permitted him to be confined within the town lines of Simsbury, by his paying costs of prosecution, &c., and giving a bond, with surety, in the penal sum of £1,000 lawful money, conditioned that he should not go out of said town, or do or say any thing against the United States within the time for which he was sentenced.

Daniel Tyler, Jr., and others, of Brooklyn, petitioned to form a matross company, with three or four light cannon, and equip themselves for service; which the Assembly granted, with three field pieces, not exceeding 12 men to one field piece.

The Assembly adjourned the 7th day of June, A. D. 1777.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

## SPECIAL SESSION.

At a General Assembly, held by special order of the Governor, at Hartford, on the 13th day of August, A. D. 1777.

His Excellency JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Hon. MATTHEW GRISWOLD, Deputy Governor.

Jabez Hamlin, Elisha Sheldon, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, Oliver Wolcott, and Samuel Huntington, Esq'rs., Assistants.

An act in addition to a law of this State, was passed, declaring that high treason should not be aailable offence.

The two acts to prevent monopolies before passed, were repealed.

In compliance with a resolution of Congress, the 31st of July, 1777, the Assembly resolved, that a proper person should be appointed within the limits of each brigade in the State, to recruit men to fill the regiment raised to serve in the continental army, and to give a bond of £2,000 to faithfully discharge his duty; to secure all deserters from the army in their respective districts; with power, if needed, to apply to commanding officers of the militia to aid him in taking said deserters; and to receive \$8 for every effective man by him enlisted, to serve for three years, or during the war; and \$5 for each deserter by them secured, in full for his trouble and expense. And to encourage men so to enlist, they were at the time of their enlistment, to make choice of the regiment, troop, or company where they would serve; provided said company, &c., was not full. And the Governor and Council were desired to appoint places of rendezvous to receive recruits and deserters, and inform Gen. Washington thereof; also, to give orders to carry the same into execution. And it was provided, that each effective man who should enlist as aforesaid, should be entitled to a bounty of £10 from the State, besides the allowances made by Congress.

The officers of the two battalions of militia ordered to march and join the northern army, were detached from the brigades of the State, as follows, viz.: 1st brigade, 1 lieutenant colonel, 3 captains, 3 lieutenants, 4 ensigns. From the 2d brigade, 1 colonel, 3 captains, 3 lieutenants, 2 ensigns. From the 3d brigade, 1 colonel, 4 captains, 4 lieutenants, 4 ensigns. From the 4th brigade, 2 lieutenants. From the 5th brigade, 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, 4 captains, 3 lieutenants, 4 ensigns. From the 6th brigade, 1 major, 2 captains, 1 lieutenant, 2 ensigns.

The officers from the 1st, 2d, 6th, and 1 lieutenant from the 4th brigade, to belong to the 1st battalion; and the officers of the 3d, 5th, and 1 lieutenant from the 4th brigade, to belong to the 2d battalion aforesaid.

The staff to be appointed by the colonels of the two battalions. The commanding officers of each brigade to detach the field officers, captains, and subalterns for the two battalions, in proportion as aforesaid.

It was resolved, that the selectmen of the several towns in the State, should provide for the families of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers raised in the State for the continental army, with such necessaries for said families as they should want, at the rate established by law, fixing the prices in accordance with the amount of money deposited in their hands, not to exceed three-fourths of their wages, at the expense of the town where said family resided at the time of enlistment, till the 1st day of December, 1777; before which time the Assembly engaged to make such other arrangements for said families as would be just. And the selectmen were directed to procure such necessaries, at the most reasonable rate; and if needed, to apply to an assistant, for a warrant to impress such necessaries, the value whereof to be appraised by indifferent persons, and paid by said selectmen.

As many of the inhabitants of this State were wounded by the British troops at Danbury, in April, 1777; and such wounded persons had been put to great expense in their sickness: Therefore the Assembly provided, that all persons who had been wounded in any action with said troops in their said incursion, should be paid out of the State treasury, all their reasonable expenditures for surgeons, medicines, boarding, and nurses.

It was resolved, that the two battalions of militia, ordered raised by this act, should consist of 728 men each, including commissioned officers appointed, and to join and aid the northern army; and raised from the several brigades in the State in the following proportion, viz.: from the 1st brigade, 282 men; from the 2d brigade, 240 men; from the 3d brigade, 331 men; from the 4th brigade, 60 men; from the 5th brigade, 331 men; and from the 6th brigade, 130 men, exclusive of commissioned officers.

The Assembly ordered, that one half of the troops of light horse in the State, not in service, that had been detached by order of the Governor and Council, should be held in readiness to march at the shortest notice, and should as soon as might be, march to and join the continental army in the northern department, and act under the commander-in-chief of said army; and there continue in service two months from the time of joining the army, unless sooner discharged.

It was farther ordered, that one regiment of 728 men, including officers, should be forthwith raised, by voluntary enlistment, and to continue in service until the 1st day of January, 1778, unless sooner discharged; to be subject to the orders of the Governor and Council, and to serve in the northern department, or elsewhere, in the States. Each so enlisting, to receive a bounty of one months pay in advance, and a bounty of \$4:10 lawful money; and if he should provide himself with arms and accoutrements, that he should be allowed 15 shillings, and 15 shillings more to provide a blanket and knapsack; with the same pay, allowance, subsistence, and refreshments that were allowed to the continental troops raised in the State. And the Governor and Council were requested to issue orders to carry the same into execution.

It was resolved, that the raising of the regiment before ordered, should be postponed; and empowering the Governor and Council, in the recess of the Assembly, to give all necessary orders for raising the same, if it should be advisable.

The Assembly requested the Governor to write to all commanding officers of the battalions raised in Connecticut, to serve in the continental army, requesting

them to cause true returns to be made of the non commissioned officers and soldiers, enlisted or detached, to serve in the nine and a half battalions ordered raised in the State, with their rank, names and the names of the towns to which they belonged, time of their enlistment or detachment, and term for which to serve, with the particulars of deserters and those not joined, and those hired for three years, or during the war, agreeable to the recommendation of Congress, and by whom hired. And the Governor was desired to issue orders to the several brigadier generals of militia, to direct the colonels within their brigades, to cause true returns of the names of all the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who had enlisted, or been detached to serve in the continental army, with the towns and companies to which they belonged; those hired and by whom, and the names of such as had not joined their corps, and noting such as had been detained by sickness, and to transmit the same to the Governor as soon as might be.

A large party of the militia had been ordered by the Governor and Council of Safety, to march to Peekskill, under Gen. Ward, to reinforce the army there, under a requisition of Maj. Gen. Putnam, desiring them to be sent on horseback, with persons to return the horses. The Assembly directed the pay table to adjust the accounts for such horse hire, at 3 pence per mile, and the persons who returned said horses, at 4 shillings per day and expenses in assisting said party in their march.

The Assembly ordered 40 shillings to be advanced in part pay to each of the non-commissioned officers and privates in the light horse troops, then on their march to join the northern army.

The sum of £3 lawful money, additional bounty, was ordered by the Assembly to be paid to each non-commissioned officer and soldier in the company of rangers, under Capt. Sylvanus Mead, raised in May, 1777.

The two regiments ordered to march and join the northern army, were ordered to be held in said service two months from the time of joining the army, unless sooner discharged, with like pay, wages, allowances, and refreshments as continental troops, with a half gill of rum each man per day, on their march to join the army.

Each non-commissioned officer and soldier, duly discharged, to receive 40 shillings bounty for each month he should continue in service, and in that proportion for any part of a month, on his return, and 20 shillings advanced to each before marching. That the divisions not drafted for any special tour of duty should be detached, and if a sufficient number should not appear to go, that the same should be completed by peremptory draughts from the able bodied men in the company, under fifty years of age, except such as had hired substitutes for the continental army.

It was farther provided, that if any person of the alarm list, or train band peremptorily drafted as aforesaid, should neglect to march as required, and should not procure an able bodied man in his place within twenty-four hours from the time of his draft, and not making a reasonable excuse to the officer who drafted him; *he should be considered a soldier in the army* for the time aforesaid, and treated as such. Also that those who marched on horseback, should be allowed 4 pence per mile out, for each horse, and that sufficient carriages to transport their baggage should be provided for those who should march on foot; that they should all be provided with provisions on their march; and

the Governor was desired to appoint some persons to furnish such provisions and carriages; that arms should be provided for the poor, and a sufficient number of tents and canteens provided from the towns, and if not returned, to be paid for by the State.

It was also resolved, that two battalions of 728 men each, officers included, of the militia, should be ordered to march with the utmost speed, to join and aid the continental army in the northern department.

The Assembly appointed Samuel McLallen, to be colonel; Noah Phelps, lieutenant colonel; and Bezaleel Bebee, to be major of the battalion (then) to be raised.

It was resolved, that the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who were drafted from the militia, and served at New London, and places adjacent, and had continued in that service two months in May, June, and July, 1777, should be paid a bounty of 20 shillings lawful money to each man.

A tax of 1 shilling on the pound, was laid on the grand list of 1776, payable in November.

It was resolved, that before any gun should be purchased by the State, it should be loaded and fired with three inches of good powder, and two suitable bells, and otherwise proved as before ordered.

It was represented to the Assembly, that a pamphlet, entitled "A discourse upon extortion," was then in the press, in Hartford, which contained many insulting reflections on civil government, leading to sedition, blood shed, and domestic insurrections; and that it was expected soon to be published and scattered among the people, to the great danger of the public peace, and the safety of the good people of the United States. The Assembly ordered a warrant forthwith issued, directing the sheriff of Hartford county to seize said pamphlet, and all the copies thereof, and deliver them to the care of the attorney for this State in the county of Hartford, who was directed carefully to inspect them, and pursue such measures relative thereto, as he should judge advisable.

The Assembly appointed Samuel Montgomery, a surgeon and physician to the detachment of light horse ordered to join the continental army in the northern department, with the pay and rations of a surgeon's mate in the continental army.

The oath of fidelity was administered to the members of the General Assembly, whose names were recorded, including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Assistants.

Ezekiel Hull was appointed captain of the 2d troop of horse, in the 3d regiment of light horse; Deodate Silliman, lieutenant in said troops; Moses Sherwood, cornet of said 2d troops; Thomas Wheeler, Jr., quarter master of said 2d troop.

Samuel Hall, captain of the 4th company of horse, in the 4th regiment of light horse; John Stewart, lieutenant of said company; William Bingham, cornet, in said company.

Joel Potter, captain of the 3d company, of the alarm list, 15th regiment.

Perley Howe, captain; Asaph Wilder, lieutenant; Stephen Tucker, cornet; and Davis Flint, quarter master, of the 2d company of horse in the 4th regiment of light horse.

Reuben Hart, ensign of the 3d company of alarm list, 15th regiment.

Josiah Phelps, captain; Eli Wilson, lieutenant; William Abernotha, ensign of the 4th company of alarm list, 17th regiment.

Capt. Ebenezer Coe, of Stratford, informed the Assembly, that on the 25th day of April, 1777, when the British made an excursion to Danbury, he was ordered out with his company, and that in an engagement with the enemy, at Ridgefield, on the 27th day of said April, he received a wound by a ball shot by the enemy, and destroyed his right eye; and asked said Assembly for a reward for his time and money expended in his cure. The Assembly ordered the sum of £60 lawful money, to be paid said Coe from the State treasury; also directed the pay table to adjust his account, and allow what they should judge just and reasonable for his expenses.

Bodwell Huse, of New Haven, enlisted in 1776, under Col. Douglass, was taken sick and by mistake returned as a deserter; asked the Assembly for his wages and mileage, being £9:11:2. The account was delivered to the pay table for examination and allowance.

Michael Ames, of New Haven, and James Benham, of Wallingford, stated that by the influence of designing men, they were induced to go to Long Island, and were there induced, partly by threats and partly by necessity, to enter the service of the enemy, until the proclamation offering pardon to such as should leave the British service and return to Connecticut was issued—but by sickness was detained after the 1st day of August, 1777, (after the time limited in said proclamation); that they escaped on the 7th day of August, 1777, and returned home, with a determination of becoming good subjects of the State. The Assembly pardoned them, on condition of their taking the oath of fidelity, and discharged them from imprisonment, upon their paying the cost of apprehending and confining them to the time of discharge.

Thomas Bidwell claimed damages of the State for a contract (made in June, 1776,) to manufacture sulphur. The Assembly ordered him paid £63:3 in discharge of said contract.

The Assembly adjourned.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### OCTOBER SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of Connecticut, holden at Hartford, October 11th, 1777.

His Excellency JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Eight Assistants present.

An act, in addition to the act enjoining an oath of fidelity to this State, was made; in which it was provided, that no person in the State should exercise any office, civil or military, or vote in any town, society, or other public meeting



appointed by law, or plead in any court, (except in his own case,) until he had taken the oath of fidelity to the State. And that after the 1st day of December, 1777, no person should be executor on any estate, or administrator, or guardian to a minor, until he shall have taken said oath.

It was enacted, that all houses and lands in the State, not owned by any citizen of the United States, should be taken possession of by the Governor and Company of Connecticut, and if fit for use, to be leased, not to exceed three years. And the State's attorneys were ordered to act for the Governor and Company, in their several counties, and prosecute where necessary to recover said possession and damages, receive rents, and pay into the State treasury, and receive three per cent. on all moneys so received, and the bills of cost recovered, &c.

It was further provided, that no inhabitant of the State, or of the United States who was inimical to the freedom or independence of the United States, and refused or neglected to take the oath of fidelity, nor any alien or foreigner should hold, purchase, or transfer real estate within this State, without special license from the General Assembly; and such conveyances made void. It was made the duty of the selectmen of the towns in the State, to notify the State's attorneys of all real estates in their towns, owned by foreigners.

An act was made to encourage fair dealing, and punish sharpers and oppressors, all conspiracies and other acts, to enhance the prices of merchandize, or the necessaries or even conveniencies of life, were considered immoral and oppressive to the poor, and pernicious to the State; and particularly when there was an interruption of commerce in time of war, and a great demand for many articles. The Assembly therefore provided, that no person in the State, after the 12th day of November, 1777, should purchase for their own use, (except in small quantities), the following articles, viz.: rum, sugar, molasses, tea, wine, coffee, salt, tow cloth, or linen or woollen cloths, stockings, shoes, raw hides, leather, wool, flax, cotton, cotton or wool cards, butter, cheese, wheat, rye, Indian corn, beans, peas, meal or flour, beef, pork, cider, tobacco, neat cattle, sheep, or other live stock, unless such persons should obtain a license, signed by the civil authority and selectmen where the applicant should dwell; and that such license should only be granted to men of good character for probity, public spirit, and friends to the independence of the American States, and had taken the oath of fidelity to this State. If a person so licensed should sell articles at unreasonable prices, or refuse to sell at reasonable prices for bills of credit of the State, or bills of the United States, he forfeited his license. Also that no engrosser should sell the articles aforesaid in this State, that he had or should engross, and bring into this State, without license from the Governor or Council of Safety, on penalty of forfeiting double the value of the property sold, or suffer six months imprisonment. And it was also provided, that before granting such license, the applicant should make a list of all the articles for sale, and deliver it on oath, to the authority granting such license. And as many fictitiously had pretended to purchase for the army, and had engrossed many of the articles above named, to sell at exorbitant prices; the Assembly declared that no commissary, or other person authorized to purchase supplies for the army or navy, should purchase any such articles in this State, until he produced his authority from the Governor or an assistant; or if any person should purchase, not so authorized, that he should forfeit treble the value of such articles, and be liable to imprisonment not exceed-



ing six months. And for a violation of the 1st paragraph, should forfeit double the value of the articles purchased ; one-half of said forfeiture to the informer, and the other half to the treasury of the State ; which act was to continue in force until October, 1778.

An act was passed, that no person should transport goods through this State, without a license from an assistant or justice of peace, and proof made to said assistant or justice, that such goods were, bona fide, procured in some other State, and that the applicant was friendly to the liberty of America. It was also provided, that when any inhabitant of this State should apply to an assistant, &c., for liberty to transport out of this State, by land or water, so much of their produce, (excepting sheep's wool and clothing of every kind, as would be sufficient to purchase salt for their families, and that only ; ) such assistant or justice, with two or more of the selectmen of the towns to which such persons belonged, were directed to adjust the quantity of produce that ought to be permitted ; and such permits were so ordered to be given. And before any such permit was granted to transport produce by water, said authority were directed to require a bond, with surety, to three times the value of the articles, that the articles should not be sold to the enemy, but the avails thereof should be used to purchase salt, and that only.

It was made a crime, punishable with death, if any person should wilfully burn or destroy, or attempt or conspire to burn or destroy any magazine of provisions, or of military or naval stores, belonging to the United States, or to Connecticut ; or if any master, officer, seaman, mariner, or other person entrusted with the navigation of any continental vessel, the property of this State, should wilfully burn or destroy, or so attempt or conspire to do, or wilfully betray, yield, or deliver any such vessel to the enemies of the United States ; every such person, his aiders or abettors of either of said offences, was to be punished with death.

The following address and resolution was made by the General Assembly, to the people of Connecticut, viz : " Whereas the multitude of our iniquities have provoked the righteous Governor of the Universe, to display the tokens of his wrath against us, by means whereof we are involved in the calamities of a bloody and unnatural war, tending to introduce profaneness, injustice, oppression, and almost every kind of vice ; and as virtue is the only foundation of happiness to a free people :—It is resolved by the Assembly, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby desired, in behalf of this Assembly, earnestly to exhort all persons of every rank, carefully to abstain from oppression, injustice, and every vice, and to apply themselves to industry, economy, and every moral and social virtue ; strictly enjoining and requiring men of every denomination to be peculiarly careful to yield a willing and cheerful obedience to the laws of this State ; and that all executive courts, ministers of justice, and informing officers, in their respective departments, use their utmost influence in promoting the administration of justice, and due observance of the law among the people ; assuring all orders of men, that this Assembly are determined to remove every officer of government who shall fail of a faithful performance of his trust ; earnestly recommending to the good people of this State, a due attention to the high obligations they are under to perform the duties of brotherly kindness and charity, to alleviate each other's burdens, relieve the distresses of the poor ; and that they discountenance, as much as possible, all persons who are in any way practising

the detestable vices of monopoly, engrossing, &c. ; or who withhold the conveniences of life from sale, or demand exorbitant prices for the same, considering them as totally unworthy of election to any public office, and even as the vilest pests of society. And that the ministers of the gospel, in their several societies, in this State, be directed to read this proclamation publicly, in their respective congregations."

Roger Sherman, Eliphalet Dyer, Samuel Huntington, Oliver Wolcott, Titus Hosmer, Oliver Ellsworth, and Andrew Adams, Esq's. were appointed delegates to the General Congress, for the year, and until others should be chosen, and arrive in Congress, in their stead.

The delegates in Congress, from this State, were instructed to move Congress, to recommend to each State, to draw in and sink their outstanding bills, excepting bills less than one dollar, by them emitted ; and to tax themselves in a sum proportioned for each State by Congress, sufficient to pay the current annual expenses of the war, and to sink a part of the continental bills drawn in by taxes and the continental loan offices, and apportion the whole sum of continental bills emitted, to each State ; recommending to them respectively, to provide funds for sinking the same within a reasonable time.

It was resolved, that a prison ship should be provided for the reception of the prisoners of war in this State, if such a ship could be hired, or impressed for a convenient time, at a reasonable price ; which was left to the discretion of the Governor and Council.

A resolution passed, granting the troops in Col. Enos' regiment, the same refreshments as were allowed to the continental troops, raised in this State for continental service.

The Governor of this State was authorized to appoint an agent in Massachusetts, to manage and conduct all matters, causes, and things, relative to prizes, captures or parts of captures, taken and brought into port there, by any ships of war of this State. The Governor was to empower such agent to transact in said matters, under such orders as he should receive from the Assembly, or Governor and Council.

The Assembly directed, that there should be imported into this State, as soon as possible, blankets and other coarse woolens to the value of £20,000, sterling, to supply the continental army, from France, or elsewhere ; and the Governor and Council were directed to carry the same into execution, as they should judge the most safe and expeditious.

The commissary of prisoners was directed to send, under safe guard, thirty of the prisoners, sent from the State of New York, and who arrived in Hartford on the 17th day of October, 1777, to the town of Windham, and there to be confined in gaol, under the care of the sheriff of that county. And twenty of said prisoners sent from the State of New York, by the commissary in like manner, sent to Norwich, and there confined in gaol, under the sheriff of New London county. And said sheriffs were directed to provide guards for their safe keeping, with power to suffer such of them to go out to labor, as the sheriff and selectmen should judge safe and best.

A law was enacted, that the towns in the State should annually, during the war, choose a committee to supply the families of such officers and soldiers in their towns, with necessary provisions and clothing, for their support, to the amount lodged in their hands by such officers or soldiers, not exceeding half their

wages ; and deliver the same to such families, at the price established by law, with a right to impress such provisions, if they could not be obtained at a reasonable price. And such property impressed to have appraised, by one chosen by said committee, one by the officer, and one by the owner ; and payment or tender of such sum the officer was to make to said committee ; and all the cost paid by the owner of such articles, if not appraised at a greater sum than had been offered by said committee.

The Governor and Council, on the 12th day of September, 1777, resolved, that each town in the State, should procure immediately, one shirt or more, either linen or flannel ; one hunting shirt or frock ; one pair of woolen overhalls ; one or two pair of stockings, and a pair of good shoes, for each non-commissioned officer and soldier in the continental army, belonging to such town, and deliver the same to Elijah Hubbard or Royal Flint, superintending commissaries for Connecticut, to be delivered to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers raised in this State, at the following rates, viz : shoes, at 8 shillings and 6 pence ; stockings, at 6 shillings per pair ; shirts, hunting frocks, and overhalls according to quality, in proportion to good yard wide tow cloth, or 2 shillings and 9 pence per yard ; and good yard wide checked or striped flannel, at 3 shillings and 6 pence per yard—which was enjoined upon each town in the State forthwith to perform. Also to make the same provision for each town's whole quota of soldiers, as was stated by the Governor and his Council, and deliver the same to said Hubbard or Flint, or some one of the purchasing commissaries, which was ordered to be paid for out of the public treasury of the State. And it was provided, if said clothing could not be so procured, the authority was authorized, on application of the committee of the towns, by warrant, to impress the same from such persons as could conveniently spare such clothing, &c., and be appraised by three indifferent men, under oath, and such as had taken the oath of fidelity. And if any town neglected to perform said trust, until the 1st day of January, 1778, they were ordered to be amerced in the sum of £20. And if friends desired to send bundles of such articles to officers or soldiers in the army, they were permitted to do up their packages, properly marked and directed, not exceeding the quantity prescribed for a single person, which were to be accounted for as part of said town's quota.

It was ordered, that all the tents in the State, should be immediately sent to the militia who had marched, or should march to join Gen. Putnam. Also that canteens, kettles, or pots, for 1,500 men, should be provided and forwarded in like manner ; and that said canteens, pots, and kettles should be provided, as far as might be, in the western brigade. That one person in each brigade should be appointed to procure said articles, and mark the tents belonging to each town, &c., with an account of the tents and other articles provided, to what person or town they belonged, and delivered to the commanding officers of each regiment of said militia, in equal proportions ; which said articles were to be returned, by a proper person appointed to collect them, after said militia service had expired, from whence they came. It was also provided, that thereafter when the militia should be called into service, the brigadier general of the brigade from which such militia should march, should give orders to furnish them with such tents and other necessaries as they might want, to be taken care of and returned, as before provided. And if said articles should be damaged or lost, to be paid for by the State.

It was represented to the Assembly, that there was great want of small iron pots and kettles for the militia, when called out; therefore the Assembly authorized Governor Trumbull, with the advice of his Council, as soon as might be, to order the managers of the furnace, at Salisbury, to have (without delay) cast, 600 pots or kettles, proper for the camp use of their several brigades.

The Continental Congress resolved to recommend to the Assembly to appoint recruiting officers for continental service, and furnish them with money for said purpose, and charge the same to the continental account. The Assembly ordered said resolution of Congress immediately printed, and the resolutions of the Governor and Council of Safety appointing said officers in the several brigades in the State. And that 2,000 enlistment blanks should be printed, and delivered to said officers; and that the sum of £300 lawful money, should be advanced to each recruiting officer, for the purpose mentioned in said resolve of Congress; and an order to draw on the Treasurer for the same, and charge to the account of the United States, and take a bond, with surety or sureties, of said officers.

Increase Mosely, Jr., complained against the captain of the 11th company in the 13th regiment. The Assembly dismissed the said captain from office.

Complaint was made against a number of military officers, in Litchfield county; upon which complaint, the Assembly appointed Capt. John Watson, H. Fitch, Jedediah Strong, and Reuben Smith, Esq., a committee to examine the facts, and report to the Assembly.

The pay table were directed to receive from the selectmen, or committee of the several towns, the accounts of the articles of clothing for the use of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the State, in the continental army.

A tax of 12 pence on the pound, on the list of polls and rateable estate was laid, and payable by the 15th day of April, 1778.

Representation was made to the Assembly, that a prize ship had arrived at Salem, in Massachusetts, and that there was on board said ship a quantity of clothing, that might be suitable for soldiers' use, and could probably be purchased for that purpose. Also that Maj. Jonathan Otis, of Middletown, was then at Salem, and would purchase the same for the State. The Assembly appointed said Otis to enquire into the quality and price of said clothing, and if he found it suitable for the purpose of the army, to purchase said clothing, if to be obtained on reasonable terms, to the amount of £4,000 lawful money; and that an order should be drawn on Samuel Elliott, Esq., of Boston, agent for this State, to pay the same to said Otis, in whole or part, as he should require.

A premium in proportion to 40 shillings per month was allowed to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the light horse and militia that had been called into service to join the continental army, during the campaign of the summer in 1777, unless they had received a like bounty by a former act.

It was resolved, that the militia and volunteers that had (then) lately marched or was marching to aid Gen. Putnam, near Fishkill, should be entitled to the same pay, bounty, and refreshments, as the forces sent to Albany, in August, 1777. It was also ordered, that a proper person should immediately proceed with £3,000 to pay to said militia or volunteers, as part of their pay, not exceeding 20 shillings to each man. And that a quantity of rum should also be immediately sent to the issuing commissary, to be delivered out for their refreshments. The person sent to said forces was directed to make the most

speedy return to the Assembly, of the number, state, and accommodations of our forces with Gen. Putnam; and the Governor was desired to carry said resolution into immediate execution.

It was in evidence before the Assembly, that the (then) late commissary general had a large quantity of salt, and other stores the property of the United States, and no person authorized to receive them, and no commissaries of purchases appointed by Congress to purchase provisions, under the regulations in the eastern department, had accepted the trust; and Gen. Putnam had sent his earnest request that fat cattle, for the use of the army, might be immediately purchased for them, and that no person inclined to do the duty without an order from Congress, or the Assembly, and not being furnished with money, as there was an abundance of beef and pork in Connecticut, that could be procured for the use of the army, which would be disposed of unless speedily secured. The Assembly requested the Governor to write, by an express, to Congress, and acquaint them with the facts aforesaid, that Congress might adopt their own measures on the subject.

The commissaries appointed by the Assembly to furnish tents for the militia, under Gen. Putnam, were ordered to return the tents to the towns to which they belonged; and Capt. J. Huntington was directed to notify said commissaries of said order.

The Assembly appointed Jonathan Wells, in the 1st brigade; Elnathan Camp, in the 2d; Jonathan Deming, in the 3d; William Hawley, in the 4th; Samuel Gray, in the 5th; and Lynd Lord, in the 6th brigade of militia, to provide tents, pots, kettles, canteens, and other utensils for the militia of this State, in service under Gen. Putnam, and forward them immediately to the chief officers in command of said militia.

The Governor and Council of Safety were authorized to appoint persons to purchase provisions, and other supplies for the land and sea forces of the State. Notice was directed to be given to the aforesaid committee, to purchase only tents—as the militia were supplied with the other utensils.

Upon the complaint of Gen. Silliman, against several military companies and officers in the county of Fairfield, for disobedience, &c., a committee was appointed and reported, which report was accepted; upon which the Assembly resolved, that Ezra Kirtland, cornet of a troop of horse in the light horse, was cashiered of his said office; and that the east military company in the town of Redding, was dissolved, and annexed to the west company in said town. Also that the 15th militia company in the 4th regiment, formerly commanded by Capt. H. Sumner, was dissolved, and annexed to other companies. And that said Kirtland should pay the cost, which amounted to £2 : 1 : 6, and that Daniel Hill and David Hart, two of the officers complained of, should pay £2 : 1 : 6 each, for costs of prosecution and examination.

Upon a complaint also of Gen. Silliman, it was resolved, that the major of the 3d regiment of light horse was ordered to lead the troop of light horse to the choice of officers, to fill the place of Samuel Beldin, of Norwalk, and said Beldin was ordered to pay the cost taxed, at £2 : 1 : 6.

Jabez Hamlin, Gen. E. Wolcott, Gen. Wadsworth, Col. J. P. Cook, Capt. Halsey, Mr. Wales, Col. Porter, and Mr. Treadwell, were appointed a committee to revise the militia laws of the State, and render the same more effectual for the defence and safety of this State and the United States.

Ezekiel Williams, Esq., commissary of prisoners of war, was directed by the Assembly, to immediately remove out of the court house in Hartford, the prisoners of war, and provide such lodgings or barracks for them as would prevent their suffering, and to impress and take possession of any shops, stores, or other buildings, or vessels necessary and proper, for that purpose at the expense of the State.

The committee before appointed to repair to Danbury, to inquire as to the burning of the public records in that town, by the British troops, had an addition of Col. S. Canfield and Caleb Baldwin to said committee, and an extension of time allowed to report.

At this time there was great complaint in the State, as to the scarcity of change, or small bills, in the currency :—Therefore, the Assembly ordered £5,250, in bills, to be issued, viz : of 2 pence, 3 pence, 4 pence, 5 pence, and 7 pence ;—60,000 bills of cash of the same tenor, with the (then late) emission of bills of credit of the State, without interest, payable at or before the 10th day of October, A. D. 1782. John Chester, Ebenezer Plummer, J. Treadwell, Samuel Bishop, Jr., Joseph Hopkins, Thomas Mumford, C. Phelps, Samuel Squire, John Brooks, (Jabez Huntington, of Windham,) Jeremiah Ripley, Andrew Adams, and Abel Hine, Esq's., or either of them, were appointed a committee to receive of the Treasurer and sign said bills, (without fee or reward,) with only one signature to any bill. And the State Treasurer was directed to cause said emission of bills to be forthwith printed, and delivered to said committee, or either of them, taking from them bills of credit of the State to the amount of such printed bills ; and said committee were to hold the small bills so signed by them, subject to the order of the Assembly.

John Shepard, of New Hampshire, was arrested in this State, for a tory, and committed to gaol in Windham, from whence he escaped and returned to New Hampshire, where he was again taken, and there confined in gaol, and by the sheriff returned to Windham gaol ; and it was represented that said Shepard had counterfeited the bills of credit of New Hampshire, and been guilty of other offences against said State. The Assembly therefore ordered said Shepard to be transported to New Hampshire, by J. Huntington, sheriff of Windham county, and delivered to some proper authority in that State.

It was ordered, that when the militia of this State was called into service of the United States, the commanding officers should see that pay rolls were made, and application made for payment, before or at the time of dismissal. And it was made the duty of the Governor to appoint pay masters, to receive and pay the money to each officer and soldier, as had been directed by Congress.

The committee of pay table were directed to draw an order on the Treasurer, for £20, (£14 in bills, and £6 in specie,) in favor of John Bigelow, who had been employed to go to New York, under a flag, to negotiate an exchange of Capt. Judd, of the Antelope, for Capt. Manly, of the Hancock, and other public services, to be accounted for ; wages and expenses to be charged to the United States.

Isaac Hull, Jr., of Wallingford, was a lieutenant in the 3d company, 1st regiment of light-horse, in this State, and said troop was ordered, by an act of 1776, to the western part of this State, to join the forces under Gen. Wooster, (the captain of said company being at the time sick,) said Hull took command of said company from the 25th day of October, 1776, to the last day of December, 1776,



in said service ; for which service neither himself, or his company had received any pay. The Assembly ordered the pay table to adjust the pay roll of said troop of light-horse, by the rule before allowed by Congress to the troops of light-horse of this State while in service of the country ; and draw on the Treasurer, and charge the same to the continent.

J. Kennady and R. Atkinson, of New Haven, were convicted for carrying Smith to Long Island, in August, 1777, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, fined £12, lawful money, and costs. The Assembly released said Kennady and Atkinson from prison, by their taking the oath of fidelity to the State, and secure the costs of prosecution, and giving bonds for their good behavior.

John Townly was permitted to return to England, by the way of New York, by a flag of truce, at his expense.

Isaac Thomas, of Woodbury, was wounded in the knee, at White Plains, by the British, about the 31st day of October, 1776, by a cannon ball, and was carried to North Castle, and soon after died of the wound, at Woodbury. The Assembly allowed to Abraham Thomas, the father, the amount due said Isaac for wages, &c.

Gen. O. Wolcott shewed the Assembly, that upon a requisition of Maj. Gen. Gates, in September, 1777, he marched with between 300 and 400 of the militia of his brigade, including 25 light-horsemen, and a few of the 13th regiment of volunteers, and joined the continental army under Gen. Gates, and continued in service until the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne, (when they were dismissed ;) and asked the Assembly for such allowance for supernumerary officers, for himself, and the other volunteers, their horse hire, &c., as should be deemed reasonable. The assembly adjudged and allowed said accounts for wages, allowances, horse hire, &c.

Elisha and Edwin Foot, of Branford, marched to New York, in August, 1776 ; and Edwin died 13th November, by sickness, and Elisha attended him in his illness, as no provision had been made for the sick, and they were both returned as deserters. The Assembly allowed their wages and cost of sickness.

Richard Lightfoot was allowed to return to Ireland, by the way of New York.

Jeremiah Mason commanded a regiment of militia at or near Maroneck, in the State of New York ; and when the enemy landed at Frog's Point, his regiment was extended nearly eight miles in length, to watch the movements of the enemy ; for which purpose he kept a horse in said service, and upon a sudden attack of the British, his horse, saddle and bridle were lost ; for which loss, he asked remuneration, which was granted by the Assembly.

Oliver Wolcott, agent for Indian affairs, appointed by Congress, in 1775, for the northern department, who in the months of August, September, and December, in the same year, attended, at Albany, thirty-two treaties, with the Six Indian Nations ; for which the Assembly allowed him £27, lawful money.

Noadiah Kibbee, of Somers, who was under Col. Enos, was allowed for expense of sickness, and wages, £15 : 1 : 3.

C. Reed and P. Wetmore, &c., petitioned for the release of P. T. Taber, who, by his own confession, was convicted of going on board of a ship of the enemy, for which he was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in the gaol at Norwich ; that he had conducted after he was imprisoned, as well as he could under

his circumstances; that he was sensible of his misconduct; that the person who educated him, persuaded him to think well of the King; that he was infirm, &c.; that the gaol was small and full of prisoners; that Capt. J. Harris would take charge of said Taber, and give a bond for his good behavior; and prayed for said Taber's release from prison. The Assembly released said Taber, upon condition that said Harris should give a bond of £500, lawful money, for his good behavior, and his taking the oath of fidelity, and paying the fine and cost.

John Kellogg, of Hebron, marched to the State of New York with the militia, under Capt. Tarbox, on the 3d of October, 1776; he was taken sick and returned home, and was returned on the pay roll a deserter, and denied his wages, expenses, and allowances. The committee of pay table were ordered to allow his account of wages and expenses, and charge the same to the United States.

Jeremiah Reede, Jr., of Lebanon, on the 4th of July, 1776, enlisted under Capt. Clark, in Col. Sage's regiment, and marched to the State of New York, and did duty until the 17th of September, when he was taken sick, and the general gave him liberty to go into the country, &c.; his father returned home with him, and said Reede was returned on the pay roll a deserter, and lost his wages, &c., except his bounty and first months pay. The pay table were ordered to adjust said account of wages, expenses, &c., and charge the same to the continental account.

Ozias Marvin, of Norwalk, was allowed the sum of £28 : 1 : 4 lawful money, for 45 gallons of rum, 60 pounds of dried beef, 8 pounds of sugar, and 24 case bottles, by him supplied to the militia, on their march to Danbury, on the 27th day of April, at the request of the officers; which was ordered by the Assembly to be paid.

Ralph Isaacs, who had been confined as a prisoner, by order of the Assembly, since October, 1776, to the limits of a society in Branford. The Assembly gave said Isaacs liberty to attend any of the superior or county courts in the State, in which he had any action depending for trial, by his taking the oath of fidelity.

The selectmen of Greenwich showed to the Assembly, that in the action at Compo, on the 27th day of April, 1777, that Lebbeus Mead, in Capt. Seeley's company, in Col. Courtland's regiment, received several exceeding dangerous wounds, and was unable to be removed, and was nursed and tended by their order; that the amount of expense was £51 : 19 : 4; which account the Assembly ordered adjusted and paid, and charged to the United States.

Hanford Fairweather, of Norwalk, was sentenced, in February, 1777, to confinement in Windham county gaol, for two years, and was committed accordingly, for being inimical to the United States. He asked permission to go to Norwalk and settle his affairs, and remove his family to Windham, by his giving bond for his safe return, &c. The Assembly gave him liberty to go at large in Windham, to labor for his support, and take the oath of fidelity. Also to go to Norwalk, and have a reasonable time to remove his family to Windham, by his giving security to the sheriff of said Windham county for his good behavior during his absence, and for his safe return to Windham: Provided he should first obtain liberty of the selectmen of the town of Windham, to remove his family into said town, for the time of his confinement.



Micah Richmond, Joshua Drake, and John Willson, of Killingly, showed the Assembly that they enlisted in May, 1775, in Capt. J. Elliot's company, in Col. Putnam's regiment, to serve seven months, and received their bounties and one months pay ; then marched to Cambridge, and served faithfully in said company until the 1st of December, 1775; then left the service, believing the time of their enlistment had expired, in consequence of which they were returned as deserters; that they offended ignorantly, and had enlisted several times since in their country's service—asking for their wages, &c. The Assembly directed the committee of pay table to adjust and pay said wages, the same as though the petitioners had been legally discharged.

The Assembly was adjourned.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

### SPECIAL SESSION.

At a General Assembly of Connecticut, at Hartford, held on the second Thursday of January, (8th day of said month,) 1778.

#### PRESENT.

His Excellency JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Nine Assistants in attendance.

As it might frequently occur, during the war, that the continental troops and militia within the State, might be ordered into the several towns for winter quarters, or defence of such towns, a law was enacted, that whenever such troops should be ordered into any town for either purpose, that the commanding officer should call upon the civil authority and selectmen of the town, whose duty it should be to appoint barrack masters to provide barracks, or houses suitable for the reception of such troops; and if no houses could be procured, the barrack master was authorized to impress buildings for said purpose; which act was to continue in force until the rising of the Assembly, in May, 1778.

It was recommended by Congress to the States, to open subscriptions, under the inspection of some suitable person or persons in each town, for supplies for the war, on loan office certificates, specifying the names of the lenders, the sum loaned, and copies of subscription papers delivered to the commissioners of the continental loan office, and by them transmitted to Congress, with no certificate less than \$200, which was approved of by the Assembly. And one man appointed in each town in the State, to open subscriptions in their respective towns, for the purposes aforesaid, as soon as might be, and keep an exact account and register of the names of the lenders, and sums loaned, and transmit from time to time to the commissioner of the loan office in this State, copies of each subscription paper, and receive such sums of the lenders, and lodge the

same with said commissioner of the loan office ; for which they were to receive a loan office certificate in their favor, and for which they were to be allowed by the State, one quarter per cent.

It became important that the battalions raised by the State, to serve in the continental army, should be immediately filled up ; and it was considered that the most equitable and expeditious manner of accomplishing it, would be for each town to raise the quota that had been assigned them, by the Governor and Council of Safety, for filling up said battalions on the 12th day of December, 1777. The Assembly directed that said battalions should be filled by voluntary enlistment, for three years, or during the war, or until the 1st day of January, 1779 ; that if it could not be accomplished by the 20th day of February (then) next, that the residue, or deficiency, should be raised by a peremptory detachment of able bodied men, liable by law to do duty, in the State, from such towns as had not completed their quota of men to serve in said battalions until the 1st of January, 1779, unless sooner discharged, and to be apportioned out in the several companies of alarm list and militia, who had not completed their quota, by the field officers of the regiment to which said companies belonged, &c. ; and a bounty of £5 : 6 : 8 was offered to each person to enlist and serve in said battalions, until the 1st day of January aforesaid, with the same wages and refreshments as the continental troops received. If any commanding officer of a company should wilfully neglect to detach his quota of men, he forfeited £20 for each man neglected to be detached of his quota, and also to be cashiered. And the colonel of such regiment was authorized, to direct some other proper officer in said regiment to detach and fill said quota, and the fine or fines collected and applied for the cost of filling up said battalions. The captains of companies were to make returns of the names of all enlisted, or detached from their companies, in distinct lists ; and all such as were in the continental service, with the towns to which they belonged, to the colonel of the regiment to which they were attached, by the 1st day of March, 1778, with the return by a superior officer to the Governor, by the 20th of March aforesaid ; and prepare the soldiers to join the army as soon as the Governor should direct, with liberty given the soldiers to join any company in any of said battalions not then full. If any detached soldier, should enlist within ten days after his detachment, he was to receive the same bounty, &c., as those first enlisted, or procure an able bodied man in his stead, the person so enlisted was to have the bounty, &c., aforesaid. And all persons so enlisted or detached as aforesaid, were considered as soldiers engaged in the continental army.

It was resolved, that each town in the State, by their selectmen, or committee appointed for that purpose, were required to procure, as soon as might be, the articles of clothing for the soldiers of the continental army of this State, viz : 1 hunting shirt or frock ; 2 linen shirts ; 2 pair of linen overalls ; 1 pair of stockings ; and 2 pair of good shoes, for each officer and soldier of the quota of such town, as stated by the Governor and Council, in April, 1777 ; and half as many blankets, to be delivered to the purchasing commissaries, in the respective counties, and delivered before the 1st day of June, 1778, (except the blankets,) which were to be delivered by the 20th of September, 1778, and delivered to said soldiers by order of the Assembly, or the Governor and Council in the recess of said Assembly, by such person as they should appoint, and at such prices as the clothier general, or his deputy, should assess them, in proportion to the wages of

such officers and soldiers, and the surplus of cost to be charged to the United States. And the towns were directed to forward their accounts of the cost of said articles, to the Assembly, to be paid for out of the treasury of the State; provided the clothing, could not be otherwise procured, the committee of the town were empowered to impress, by warrant, such clothing from any person who could conveniently spare them, (to be appraised, &c.)

Congress passed a resolution, on the 22d day of November, 1777, recommending to the Legislatures of the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, to appoint commissioners, to convene at New Haven, in this State, on the 15th of January, 1778, to regulate and ascertain the price of labor, manufactures, and internal produce, and commodities imported from foreign parts, (military stores excepted;) and to regulate the charges of innholders. The Assembly appointed Roger Sherman, William Hillhouse, and Benjamin Huntington, Esq's., as commissioners for this State, to meet the commissioners from the other States, as proposed, and consult with them on the subjects aforesaid, and report to the Assembly.

There was directed to be raised forthwith, for the defence of the sea coast, in this State, by voluntary enlistment, to serve until the 1st day of January, 1779, unless sooner discharged, several companies, to be stationed as follows, viz: two companies of 50 men each, including 1 captain, 1 first and 1 second lieutenant, 1 lieutenant fire worker, 2 sargeants, and 2 corporals; which companies were to do the duty of artillerymen or matrosses, so far as should be required in their station, and other duties of soldiers, as should be required by their officers; and stationed at Groton, New London, and Stonington, as the Governor and Council should direct.

One company of 20 men, including 1 sargeant, 1 corporal, under a lieutenant, and stationed at Saybrook.

One company of 24 men, including 1 sargeant, 1 corporal, under a lieutenant, and stationed at New Haven.

One company of 20 men, including 1 sargeant, 1 corporal, under a lieutenant, and stationed at Milford.

One company of 24 men, with the same officers, and stationed at Fairfield.

One company of 24 men, with the same officers, stationed at Norwalk.

One company of 24 men, and like officers, and stationed at Stamford.

One company of 24 men, under like officers, and stationed at Greenwich.

The same wages and allowances were offered to the officers and soldiers, of such as should enlist, as was given for like service to officers and soldiers, in 1777; and in addition, 12 shillings to each officer and soldier who provided himself with a good blanket, and retained his blanket after service. And to such non-commissioned officer or soldier as should provide a good fire arm, cartouch box, bayonet, and accoutrements, to the acceptance of the chief officer, should receive 10 shillings, also 6 pence per day for billeting money, from his enlistment to the time he should have provisions from the State, and one month advance pay; and said officers were liable to be removed, on any special emergency, for the relief of any place on the sea coast, in the State, by order of the Assembly, or in recess, by the Governor and Council of Safety, when any such place should be attacked, or in danger of attack. The Governor and Council

of Safety were empowered to appoint the commissioned officers for said companies.

Gen. Andrew Ward was appointed one of the committee, to revise the militia laws, in place of Gen. J. Wadsworth; also were added to said committee, Elisha Lathrop, Caleb Baldwin, and Col. Ebenezer Norton.

As the public records of the town of Danbury, were burned and destroyed by the British troops, whereby their legal evidence of title to their lands were consumed, the Assembly enacted, that the selectmen of the town of Danbury should, within two months after the rising of the Assembly, legally warn all the inhabitants of said Danbury, who had a right by law to vote in town meetings, to meet at a time and place by them to be appointed, to choose a committee to survey, and lay out all the highways and lands in said town, to all persons then in possession of any lands in their own right, and no question as to the title of any person. And said committee so chosen, were to make proper surveys of all the highways and lands in said town, to the several persons then in possession, where there was no dispute of his being the proper owner, &c., bounding said lands, and on whom bounded, its quantity; and when said surveys were made, and signed by said committee, and recorded in Danbury town records, it was enacted by said Assembly, that the same should be a full and perfect title of said land to the owners; and attested copies thereof given in evidence in any court of record, when the title of said land should thereafter be in question.

It was resolved, that the families of all the commissioned and staff officers of the continental army, below the rank of brigadier general, in this State, should be provided for in the same manner, and at the same prices, as the non-commissioned officer's and soldier's families, were provided for, upon such officer's depositing money for that purpose, in proportion as follows, viz.: for a field officer's family, £24; for a captain, subaltern, or staff officer's family, £18 per annum, to be paid quarterly, if required; and such expense as should arise above the limited prices, was directed to be paid for by the State.

Gen. Wadsworth, Col. Pitkin, and Col. Chester, were appointed a committee to adjust all accounts of the managers of the lead mine, at Middletown, &c., respecting the improvement of said mine, and report make.

The Governor was desired to write to Congress, upon the peculiar situation of the militia officers, who had been ordered from this State, to join Gen. Putnam, at Fishkill, in October, 1777; and request payment for the supernumerarys. Also to write Gen. Putnam, to make a proper representation of the peculiar situation and circumstances of said militia officers, to the Continental Congress.

It was resolved, that the officers and soldiers of the militia, and levies of this State, in actual service, or those who had been in the service of the State, in the year 1777, were entitled to the same provision, &c., for their losses, expenses, &c., in the same manner as had been before allowed in the premises, in all respects to the officers and soldiers of the new levies and militia; and the committee of pay table were to adjust their accounts, draw orders, &c.

The Governor was desired, by the Assembly, to write to Gen. Gates, or other proper officers of the continental army, requesting that Col. Nixon's regiment, ordered to the town of Farmington, for winter quarters, should take quarters on the sea coast, or western frontiers, in this State, near Horseneck, advising

him a sufficient guard to secure the continental stores and artillery in Farmington, might be had from the militia.

Upon a representation of Maj Gen. Putnam, to the Assembly, of the necessity of inoculating for the small pox, the soldiers, artificers, &c., of the continental army, and asking liberty to have some of them inoculated in some part of this State, under the direction of Doct. Isaac Foster, deputy director general of the hospital in the eastern department. The Assembly granted liberty to so inoculate, until the 25th day of May, 1778, at such place in Woodbury, as should be provided by the civil authority and selectmen of said town, at continental expense, if requested by Dr. Foster ; all of which was under the direction of the civil authority and selectmen, as the law directed.

The Assembly directed the commissary of prisoners of war, in this State, forthwith to take care to secure and confine the prisoners of war, subjects of the King, or inhabitants of the States, within this State, either in prison ships or elsewhere, as in his opinion, with the advice of the Governor and Council of Safety, should be expedient.

The Governor and Council of Safety were desired, as speedily as might be, to make every necessary provision of clothing and refreshments, for officers and soldiers of this State, then in captivity in New York, Long Island, or elsewhere ; and to take particular care of those who belonged to this State, who should thereafter be so unfortunate as to fall into the power of the enemy, from time to time, as their necessity should require.

It was resolved, that the supernumerary officers, who had been ordered out with the militia, and had received no pay, should have their full pay according to their rank, for the time they were in service. That the several captains should make and deliver to the colonel of the regiment, where they served, a pay abstract therefor, properly certified on oath ; and the colonel make a regimental abstract, properly certified, which was to be approved by the brigadier general, under whom said service was performed, and by him handed to the pay table for examination and allowance.

It was ordered, that those of the militia, who used horses in their march to the relief of that part of the continental army under Gen. Putnam, at Peekskill, in October, 1777, should be paid for the use of their horses, at the rate of 4 pence per mile out, in lieu of mileage and expenses, and be obtained and paid in manner aforesaid.

As the regiments commanded by Col. John Ely and Col. Roger Enos, had been ordered out of the State, and subjected to long and tedious marches, and great expense : Therefore the Assembly resolved to pay £4 to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, in said regiments, as an additional bounty for extra services and expenses ; and ordered the pay table to make a full settlement of the pay, then due, and said bounty to said regiments for services in this and other States, and the State commissary to settle the rations due. The several captains to receive, and pay the wages and bounty due their companies, and be allowed therefor one and a half per cent. on all the money so received and paid out, and charge the United States for wages and rations for service performed out of this State.

Upon the complaint of Heman Allen, of Salisbury, and others, against Capt. James Landon, for being unfriendly to his country ; the Assembly cashiered said Landon, and ordered him to pay the cost of trial, &c., taxed at £11 : 16.

Upon complaint of Epaphras Sheldon, colonel of the 17th regiment, against Solomon Marsh, captain of the 10th company, in said regiment, for a general neglect of his duty, owing to an unfriendliness to the American cause, &c.; the Assembly dismissed said Marsh from office, and ordered him to pay the cost, being £23 : 9 : 5.

Upon information of the State attorney against John Marsh, a cornet in a troop of horse under Capt. Moses Seymour, for disobedience of orders; the committee found the facts true, as stated, and found that he had recently taken the oath of fidelity, and declared his willingness to serve his country, risk his life and fortune in its defence, &c. The Assembly ordered said Marsh to pay the cost, taxed at £8 : 14 : 5, and the complaint dismissed.

Capt. John Lewis, Jr., complained of Ira Beebe, of Waterbury, a lieutenant of his company, for leading off a number of his company, in October, 1777, from Fishkill. The Assembly ordered him to pay the cost that had arisen.

Ralph Isaacs shewed, that he was executor of his father's and brother's wills, and that the property under the wills, as well as his own, were suffering by his confinement; that he had taken the oath of fidelity, and had done much to aid the United States, and should continue to do so. The Assembly set said Isaacs at liberty.

Timothy Beach was sentenced for one year, to the gaol in Windham, and a fine of £20, and cost of prosecution taxed, at £16 : 16 : 3; said Beach prayed to take the oath of fidelity, and be discharged from prison, which was granted.

Samuel McLellan, of Woodstock, commanded a regiment from Connecticut, in the expedition against Rhode Island, and no part of the wages, mileage, &c., had been paid to his regiment. The Assembly directed the pay table to adjust and pay the same.

Andrew Johnnot, of Boston, commissary general of forage for the eastern department, on the 16th of October, 1777, purchased of Absalom Williams, of Wethersfield, 50 tons of screwed hay, for the United States, at £7 : 10 per ton, to be delivered at Warehouse Point, at 18 shillings per ton for freight, besides carting, which said Williams refused to perform. The Assembly ordered said Williams to deliver said hay for the United States, viz.: 10 tons in January, and the remainder of said 50 tons in March, as specified in said contract, on penalty of £300 lawful money, in case of failure so to do.

Gurdon Wetmore, a prisoner in Hartford gaol, asked to be released from said prison; which was granted, by his taking the oath of fidelity, become bound with surety in the sum of £500 for his good behavior, and not to do or say any thing against the State or the United States, during the time of his sentence, and not depart out of Middletown; also paying all costs of prosecution and imprisonment.

David Washburn, of New Milford, who was in gaol in Fairfield, under sentence of death for high treason, for going on board of an armed brig, owned by the British, and going on shore from said brig in Stamford with men under arms, against the people of this State; in which he stated he did not go on board said brig with a design of taking up arms against his country, &c.; and prayed that mercy might be extended to him, so far as to save his life. The Assembly extended the time of execution, and continued the petition to the (then) next Assembly, in May.

Samuel Lord and David Morehouse, of Fairfield, were confined in the gaol at Norwich, and petitioned to be released therefrom ; which was granted, by their giving their notes for the cost of prosecution, and remaining in the town of Fairfield, under the charge and care of the selectmen of said Fairfield.

Amos Richards, in the year 1776, a soldier in Col. Wyllys' regiment, at New York, on the 20th day of July, was on guard at the fly market, in said city, and by accident lost his gun, and at Peekskill lost his cartouch box ; which were allowed to him by the Assembly.

Solomon Bill was released from gaol, and confined within the limits of Middletown.

Solomon Buel, of Litchfield, was wounded in both of his thighs, by a ball, in the Danbury expedition. The Assembly allowed him £60 for his relief.

Jared Clark, of Saybrook, left the army at New York, (he being sick) and returned home. The Assembly allowed him his wages.

Sylvanus Mead, captain of the company of rangers, asked the Assembly for an additional payment of £4 each for his company, the same that had been allowed colonels Enos' and Ely's regiments for extra fatigue, &c.; which was granted by the Assembly, for their extra expenses out of the State.

Samuel Clark, of Middletown, stated to the Assembly that he was one of the unfortunate men taken at fort Washington, by the British, and confined in New York until December, 1776, and then with others nearly dead, liberated on parole, and by the help of friends reached home, weak and feeble, and had expended £9:12:2 for doctoring, &c.; which sum was allowed him by the Assembly.

The sum of \$13:9:9 was allowed Aaron Kelsey, of Killingworth, a lieutenant in a regiment of militia, under Col. Cook, in the northern army, who was wounded September 19th, 1777, and returned home on furlough.

Elijah Elmore, of Stratford, on the 10th of January, 1777, enlisted into the British service, and continued until the next November, when he escaped, and resigned himself to Gen. Parsons, and was committed to gaol, by the authority of Stratford, when he prayed the Assembly to pardon him; which was granted by the Assembly, by his paying the cost which had arisen.

Israel Rowland, of Redding, stated to the Assembly, that in April, 1777, he was induced to believe that the country would be conquered, and through fear only, he joined the troops of the enemy, and marched with them ; but upon seeing the proclamation of Gen. Putnam, he returned on the 4th of December, to Redding, and resigned himself to the authority, and not to Gen. Putnam ; that the authority committed him to gaol, as a prisoner. Upon which facts, he asked the Assembly to grant him a pardon, and set him at liberty, which was granted, by said Rowland's paying the cost.

Timothy Northam, of Colchester, shewed to the Assembly, that in the year 1776, he enlisted under Capt. John Isham, in Col. Chester's regiment, in public service at New York ; and on his return home, with some of his fellow soldiers from the pursuit of a party of the enemy near White Plains, he had both bones of his left leg broken, by the discharge of a musket, which shortened his leg three inches, and cost him £90. The Assembly directed the pay table to adjust his account, and pay the same.

Joseph Porter, of Farmington, proved to the Assembly, that on the 2d day of January, 1777, his son Lott Porter, enlisted in Capt. Curtiss' company, under



Col. Hooker, marched to Westchester, in the State of New York ; that on the 13th day of said January, was wounded by the British, and taken prisoner and soon died ; that he had in his hands \$13, which the enemy took from him, and asked relief of the Assembly. The pay table were ordered to draw an order for said \$13.

Samuel Camp, of Durham, marched the 17th day of August, 1776, as a lieutenant under Capt. Hicox, in Col. Baldwin's regiment, and in the pay abstract allowed one days pay for every twenty miles to return home, and was taken sick in Stamford ; prayed said Assembly to allow his wages for the time of his sickness, &c., being £3:15:7. The pay table were ordered to draw on the Treasurer for said sum.

Nathan Dayton, of New Milford, represented to the Assembly, that at the commencement of the war, waged by the King of Great Britain, to establish tyranny over the American States, he was an active friend of the States ; but that in November, 1776, his mind was filled with gloomy apprehensions for the fate of his country, and many of his acquaintance, by stratagem, in magnifying the dangers, and by the strongest assurances of the safety and peace he might enjoy under the regulars, on Long Island, deluded said Dayton then to abscond to said Island, in the possession of the British, and place himself under their protection. But on his arrival at the enemy's head quarters, on said Island, Col. Delaney, commander at said post, tyrannically compelled him to bear arms with the enemy, under pain of military execution ; that he escaped from his military bondage in November, 1776 ; and on his arrival in New Milford, the 9th of December, was arraigned before Samuel Canfield, Esq., by Thomas Hays, for his conduct, and committed to gaol in Litchfield ; for which he implored pardon of the Assembly. The Assembly directed, to stay all further prosecutions against said Dayton, but ordered that upon his taking the oath of fidelity, he should enjoy the rights of the subjects of this State, and on paying the whole costs of prosecution, be released from gaol.

Solomon Leet, of Guilford, shewed to the Assembly, that on the 17th day of June, 1777, the enemies of the American States landed at Sachem's Head, in Guilford, and set fire to his dwelling house and two large barns, which consumed the whole, with all his furniture, &c., which he had appraised by S. Brown, J. Elliott, and E. Hobson, with an inventory by them made, &c. ; and prayed the Assembly for liberty to lodge said inventory on file. The Assembly ordered the same lodged on file, amounting to £522:7:7.

Daniel Brown and John Parker, Jr., of Coventry, who enlisted in May, 1775, and marched to Cambridge, asked for their pay and wages. The pay table were ordered to adjust their accounts.

Samuel Hawley, of Redding, who was imprisoned for joining the British, under the influence of the belief that the States would be subdued ; and on seeing the proclamation of Gen. Putnam, offering a pardon to such as should return home, and he immediately returned home. The Assembly ordered said Hawley released from his confinement, by his paying the cost of prosecution.

The Assembly adjourned to the 12th of February, 1778.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

## ADJOURNED SESSION.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut, held at Hartford, on the 12th day of February, A. D. 1778.

His Excellency JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governor.

Hon. MATTHEW GRISWOLD, Deputy Governor.

Jabez Hamlin, Elisha Sheldon, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, Richard Law, and William Williams, Esq's., Assistants, and present.

An act was passed for the regulation of the prices of labor, produce, manufactures, &c. within the State. Congress having premised the necessity of reducing the quantity of circulating medium, in order to support its value, recommended to the States, in strong terms, to raise supplies to carry on the war by taxes ; to draw in and cancel all the bills of credit by each State emitted, small bills or change under a dollar excepted ; to refrain from further emissions, and appoint commissioners to meet in three divisions, to regulate and ascertain the prices of labor, manufactures, internal produce, and commodities imported from foreign parts.

And the commissioners from New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, met at New Haven, and agreed on a regulation of prices for said States, and reported their doings to said Assembly, which was accepted.

The Assembly considered that the quantity of the circulating medium would be in some measure reduced by the means aforesaid, which would tend to facilitate the reduction of the unequal and exorbitant prices of articles, and put a stop to that growing and alarming evil, not only fraught with the greatest injustice to the States, but threatened the dissolution of the armies of our country, and ruin of the States, unless timely prevented by a vigorous exertion of the States, in carrying into execution the system of regulations required by Congress.

An act was passed, that the various kinds of labor of farmers, mechanics, and others, should not exceed the rate of 75 per cent. advance on the prices which they were respectively held at in the same places in the State, in the various seasons of the year, in 1774. Merchantable wheat, peas, and white beans, at 9 shillings and 9 pence per bushel ; rye or rye meal, 6 shillings and 6 pence per bushel ; oats, 3 shillings ; wheat flour, 27 shillings per hundred weight ; Indian corn, 4 shillings and 6 pence per bushel ; pork well-fatted, weighing from 100 to 150 pounds, 5½ per pound—from 150 to 200 pounds per hog, 6 pence per pound, and weighing more than 200 pounds per hog, 6½ per pound ; best American cheese, 9 pence per pound ; best grass-fed beef with the hide and tallow,

35 shillings per hundred ; best stall-fed 48 shillings, and in proportion less for inferior qualities ; good firkin butter, 1 shilling and 3 pence ; fresh butter in small quantities, 1 shilling and 4 pence ; raw hides 4½ ; well-tanned sole leather, 2 shillings per pound ; skins and all kinds of curried leather in proportion ; men's good neat leather shoes, common sort, 12 shillings ; best calfskin, 15 shillings per pair ; women's and children's shoes in due proportion to the price of men's shoes ; blooming iron where made, £ 48 per ton, and in proportion for a less quantity ; pig iron, £ 16 per ton ; American steel for edge tools, 2 shillings per pound, common steel, 1 shilling and 4 pence ; good West India rum, by wholesale, 18 shillings per gallon ; molasses, 9 shillings per gallon ; best muscovado sugar, 10 pounds per hundred, gross ; other sugars in proportion ; coffee, not over 4 shillings and 6 pence per pound by the hundred ; good whisky, 7 shillings per gallon ; New England rum, Geneva brandy, and other distilled spirits, not to exceed 12 shillings per gallon, with the addition of cartage or transportation.

The price of team work, not to exceed 2 shillings and 6 pence for the carriage of 2,000 pounds net weight, per mile, including all expenses ; and no kinds of home manufactures and internal produce, not enumerated, to be sold at prices exceeding 75 per cent. advance on the prices they were usually sold at in 1774. The price of hemp, flax, sheep's wool, woolen and linen cloths, stockings, felt hats, wire and wool cards, manufactured in America, not to be sold at more than double the price they sold for in 1774. Salt, made here, not over 27 shillings per bushel. No goods, wares, or merchandize imported by capture or otherwise, not before stated, to exceed the rate of one dollar, continental currency, for each shilling sterling, prime cost of such goods in Europe, or other foreign country where purchased, exclusive of other charges where sold by the importer or captors, excepting woolen and linen goods, and checks suitable for the army ; broadcloths, not over 7 shillings sterling per yard, and other woolen cloths in proportion in value ; holland and checks of all kinds, not over 2 shillings per yard, prime cost in Europe ; drugs and medicines, duck of all kinds, cordage, tin plates, copperas, alum, files, brimstone, felt hats, nails, window glass, salt, wire, steel, wool, and cotton cords, naval and military stores. That all woolen cloths, blankets, linens, shoes, stockings, hats, and other articles of clothing suitable for the army, before imported, which should be seized by authority, for the use of the army, should be estimated at the rate of one dollar, continental currency, or cash, one shilling sterling prime cost of such goods in Europe, with the stated allowance for land carriage. If prime cost was not known, then to be appraised, &c.

It was enacted, that all venders of imported articles, should produce an authentic invoice of prime cost ; and when on trial for over-selling, should be judged guilty, unless he could shew by such invoice, or other sufficient evidence, he was not guilty. To sell no goods above 25 per cent. over the price of the importer, with price of transporting, not exceeding the price of land carriage aforesaid. No innholder to receive more than 50 per cent. advance on the wholesale price of his liquors, or other foreign articles before stated, and by him sold in small quantities, with the addition of land carriage, or any other articles of entertainment, refreshment, or forage, more than at the rate of 75 per cent. advance upon the price the same were held at in 1774.

It was also enacted, that the price of labor, charges of innholders, and the prices of such articles of American produce and manufactures as were not stated in the act, should be ascertained by the civil authority and selectmen in the towns, according to the portions in the act prescribed, who were to make lists of such articles, with the prices, and lodge said lists with the town clerks, by the 20th of March, 1778; and no article was to be sold for a higher price than was stated in said list. And it was provided, that whosoever should ask or receive for labor, or any of the articles enumerated in the act, more than at the rate stated, either in bills of credit of this State or of the United States, or by way of barter or exchange, should forfeit for each article contracted for at a sum not exceeding 40 shillings, a penalty of 40 shillings; and if for a greater sum than 40 shillings, a penalty equal to the price received for such labor done or article sold. And if convicted, and unable to pay the penalty, the court were empowered to dispose of such person in service on board any armed vessel of this State, or in any regiment raised for the defence of the State, for a time sufficient to pay the same; and also be incapable of holding any office, civil or military, in the State, or maintaining any suit at law, or taking out any executions.

It was also enacted, that no person in the State should commence any suit in law or equity in any court, after the 20th day of March, 1778, while said act continued in force, until he had taken an oath, that neither himself or his agents, had received, or contracted to receive for any labor or articles sold in this State, after the 20th of March aforesaid, more than at the rates or prices fixed by law; and a certificate thereof endorsed on the writ, without which said writ should abate. Provided, if any person had been guilty of a breach of said act, (and not prosecuted,) he should go before authority, under oath, and render an account of all labor done, or articles sold over the stated price, and pay double of such surplus to said authority. Proof of probable guilt was made sufficient evidence to convict, unless the criminal should make oath that he was not guilty of the facts charged against him. It was also provided, that property impressed for the army should be paid for at the aforesaid prices.

The Legislature were informed that many selfish and evil minded Tories continued clandestinely to trade with the enemy, endangering the liberties and safety of the States; to prevent which, it was provided by said Assembly, that no person should at any time, pass from any town in Connecticut to Long Island, or any other island or place in possession of the British, without a license in writing, under the hands of the selectmen of the town, and one assistant or justice of the peace, on penalty of £100 lawful money; and if the offender should be unable, or refuse to pay the fine, said court were directed to bind over said convict, to serve in any military company raised for the defence of the State, or on board of any ship of war of the United States, without bounty or wages, or confined in gaol, at the court's discretion, not exceeding one year.

It was farther provided, that no such license should be given until the applicant had given bond, with surety, to the State Treasurer, in the penal sum of £400, with conditions that he should not carry with him any moneys, wares, goods, or merchandise, to carry on any trade with the enemy, or any other person, on any of the islands or places within the enemy's lines or possession; or buy any such wares, goods, &c., at or on any of said islands or places, or import the same into this State or the United States, during the war.

It was also provided, that when any wares, goods, &c., should be found in this State, imported from Long Island, or any other of said islands and places; such goods, &c., should be the property of the finder of said property, and be seized by warrant, at the expense of such finder, &c., and be proceeded against as provided in case of captures taken from the enemy on the sea; and if taken on the sound, within the enemy's lines, or coming from any of the said islands, contrary to this law, they were made lawful prizes to the captors, and subject to be libelled. And the selectmen of the towns in this State, with the advice of one assistant or justice of the peace, were authorized to seize and secure any vessel, boat, skiff, or other water craft they should have reason to suspect was intended for carrying on any of the evil practices forbidden by the law; which act was not intended to extend to prevent any friendly refugee from the islands aforesaid, resident in this State, from bringing his effects left on said islands, or the produce of his farm, having first procured a license therefor.

Congress, on the 22d of November, 1777, recommended to this State, to raise during the year 1778, by taxes, for the use of the United States, for the supplies of the war, the sum of \$600,000, though not to be considered as the proportion of this State; but when paid, to be placed to the credit of the State, at 6 per cent. interest, from the time of its payment, until the respective quota should be finally adjusted by Congress, agreeable to the confederation to be adopted and ratified by the States; all which was approved by the Assembly. And to carry the same into effect, said Assembly laid a tax of 1 shilling on the pound, on the list of polls and rateable estates given in 1777, to be paid into the treasury by the 1st of June, 1778. And a further tax of 1 shilling on the pound on said list, and paid into the treasury by the 1st of November, 1778. Provided for the relief of the indigent, who should be unable to pay their proportion, that the authority and selectmen were directed to abate the whole or part of the taxes of such indigent persons who should most need such abatements, to the amount of one-twentieth part of such town's quota of said taxes. The Assembly directed the State Treasurer to pay to the order of Congress, \$600,000 of the money that should be brought into the treasury by said taxes, and debit the same in the account of the United States.

It was enacted by the Assembly, that no bills of credit, emitted by order of said Assembly, except bills under the value of one dollar, should be current in any payment, trade, or dealing in this State, after the 20th day of March, 1778, except in the State treasury, or in payment of public taxes, or received into the treasury after the 1st day of July, 1778, except from persons in the army, or absent from the State, in which cases they were receivable until the 1st day of November, 1778. It was also provided, that the possessors of said bills, on delivering them into the treasury within the time limited aforesaid, should receive the Treasurer's promissory notes, or bills emitted on the credit of the United States, in exchange therefor. And the Treasurer was authorized to issue such notes, payable in one year after date, at 6 per cent. interest, of like form and tenor of those issued in May, 1777; the amount of which notes were ordered, by said Assembly, not to exceed the sum of £235,000, and none of them for a less sum than £10.

Representation was made to the Assembly, that several persons in the State, under the law where any two men were allowed to hire a recruit, during the war, or for three years, and be exempt from detachments, &c., had in a

fraudulent manner, presumed to procure to enlist prisoners of war, who belonged to the British fleet or army, and stationed in this State; to prevent which it was enacted, that no person should be so exempted on account of any soldier or recruit thereafter procured to enlist, until he should procure a duplicate written certificate, under the hand of a recruiting officer, specifying the name, and place of abode of the recruit, so to enlist, the time of his enlistment, &c., nor until such certificate should be delivered to the commanding officer of the military company to which such exempted person belonged, nor in any case where such recruit should appear to have been, at the time of his enlistment, a prisoner of war, or belonging to the British army or navy.

The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, proposed by Congress, to be entered into by the thirteen United States of America, was laid before the Assembly, by the Governor, read and considered. It was resolved, as the opinion of said Assembly, that said articles, in general, appeared to be well adapted to cement and preserve the union of said States, to secure their freedom and independence, and promote their general welfare; but that with some amendments they might be rendered more perfect, equitable, and satisfactory.

And the delegates of this State were, by said resolution, *instructed* to propose to the consideration of Congress, the following amendments, viz.: 1st. That in the 8th article, as a rule for determining each State's proportion of the common expense, instead of the value of the lands, buildings, &c., as expressed in said article, be inserted, the number of inhabitants in each State; this being in the opinion of this Assembly, a more certain, equitable, and peaceable rule than the other. Traders and manufacturers who employ and support great numbers of inhabitants, being sources of wealth to a State, as well as the produce of lands; besides it being very difficult, if not impossible to obtain such an estimate of the value of the lands and buildings in the United States, as would do justice or give satisfaction to the several States. 2d. That next after the 5th paragraph, in the 9th article, be inserted the following clause, viz.: Provided that no land army shall be kept up by the United States, in time of peace, nor any officers or prisoners kept in pay by them, who are not in actual service, except such as are or may be rendered unable to support themselves, by wounds received in battle in the service of said States, agreeable to the provision already made by a resolution of Congress. The said amendments were approved of in substance, and the form left to Congress to adopt. And as other amendments might be proposed by other States, and as it was highly necessary and expedient for the welfare and security of the States that the articles of confederation should be finally concluded and ratified as soon as possible; it was resolved, that the delegates of this State, who should be present in Congress, should be and were fully authorized and empowered, in behalf of Connecticut, to agree to, and ratify the said articles of confederation, with such amendments, if any should be, as by them, in conjunction with the delegates of the other States in Congress, should be thought proper.

It was enacted to raise two brigades in Connecticut, by voluntary enlistment; six battalions to be held in constant readiness, to march on the shortest notice, upon any tour of duty wherever the militia were liable to be called. Each battalion to consist of eight companies, and each company of 90 men, including officers; each field officer to command a company; each company (except the field officers) to be commanded by 1 captain, and each company to have 2

lieutenants and 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, and 1 fifer; each battalion to be commanded by 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, and 1 major. The field officers of each battalion to nominate the commissioned officers and staff of their battalion, out of such as had borne like commissions; and to be appointed to each battalion, 1 adjutant, 1 quarter master, 1 surgeon, 1 sergeant major, and quarter master sergeant; and the whole formed into two brigades, each under a brigadier general, appointed by the Assembly. The non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who should enlist into said battalions, and furnish themselves with a gun and bayonet, cartouch box, blanket, and knapsack, should receive therefor a premium of 10 shillings for a gun and bayonet, 2 shillings for a cartouch box, 16 shillings for a blanket, and 2 shillings for a knapsack. The brigadier general to appoint a brigade major in each brigade; and each able bodied recruit entitled to a bounty of £3 : 10, exclusive of previous allowance, and 20 shillings per callendar month during his continuance in said service when not on duty; and all commissioned, non-commissioned, and staff officers to have half pay, when not on duty; and when called out on duty, to have the same wages, pay, and rations as the continental troops raised in the State were entitled; and if called and while in service out of the State, to the same refreshments as continental troops, and their polls exempt from taxes during their continuance in said battalions; said battalions to be kept up until the 1st day of March, 1779, unless sooner discharged. Each company to be called out for exercise once in 15 days, and the battalions called out for exercise three times in a year, with the same wages and rations when called out as aforesaid, in actual service; that said battalions should not be continued in service, at any one time, longer than three months from the time they should arrive at the place of their destination; said battalions to be under the articles of war, formed by this State, when called into service; to be furnished with cartridges by the captain of each company, as occasion might require; each regiment to have one ammunition wagon ever ready for use, and each company, a baggage cart or wagon, tents, camp equipage, &c.; the captain made accountable for the tents to the towns, and for baggage carts and camp equipage of his company to be liable to the Treasurer of the State. Also to raise two companies of artillery, of 50 men in each company, including officers, to be raised one company out of each brigade, with the same pay, wages, &c., as other matross companies, the same premium, under the same regulations, as to pay, and tours of duty, as the said battalions. Each company to have 1 captain lieutenant, 1 lieutenant, 1 lieutenant fire worker, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, and 1 fifer; each company to have 4 field pieces, 1 ammunition wagon, and horses to draw them, to belong one company to each brigade aforesaid. Said battalions to be subject to the orders of the Assembly, the Governor, and other superior officers. Provided that if said battalions should not be filled up within a reasonable time, the Governor and Council of Safety were empowered to discharge so many of the commissioned officers as should be supernumerary, in proportion to the privates, under the rule adopted by Congress, and allow their wages until so discharged.

A resolution passed, allowing bills of credit of the United States to be received by the Treasurer of the State, in filling the loan ordered, for calling in and sinking the bills of credit of the State, and to exchange the same for bills of Connecticut.



The committee of pay table were ordered to settle the accounts of the soldiers made prisoners on Long Island, fort Washington, and places adjacent, while in service of the United States, and who returned home between the 1st of November, 1776, and the 1st day of February, 1777, who were sick with the small pox, or other disorders soon after their return, by disease which originated in service or in prison, with expense of sickness.

At the January session, 1778, sundry companies of artillery were ordered to be raised for the garrisons at New London, Groton, &c., to defend the sea coast, and having found such companies could not be raised according to the plan then adopted; the Assembly ordered, that the company of 50 men ordered for Groton and Stonington, should be stationed at Groton, with the same number of non-commissioned officers as were stationed there in 1777; and that an additional number of 20 men, including 1 sargeant and 1 corporal, commanded by 1 lieutenant, should be raised for the fort at Stonington, under the same rules, &c., as those ordered raised in January aforesaid; with a bounty of £4 to each non-commissioned officer and private who should enlist, and be furnished, as provided in January aforesaid; and some proper person appointed to command at the forts at New London, Groton, and Stonington, with the rank and pay of major, to superintend the works, give orders about military stores and tools in said fortifications, and to continue in service until January, 1779. The Governor and Council of Safety to appoint said officers, and carry said resolution into full effect.

Col. Joseph Thomson, of the 2d regiment of militia, was directed immediately to order a guard of 20 men for the defence of New Haven, to be drafted from the companies in said regiment, to be under 1 lieutenant, 1 sargeant, and 1 corporal, under the direction of Col. Thomson; and Jonathan Fitch, Esq., commissary, was directed to supply them with provisions, to be continued in service until the 1st of April, 1778, unless sooner discharged.

Joseph Spencer, Esq., was appointed a member of the Council of Safety, until the rising of said Assembly, in May, (then) next, in the place of Titus Hosmer, resigned.

Maj. Thomson, commanding officer of a continental battalion, stationed at Farmington, and under marching orders, to proceed to the Saw Pitte, in the State of New York, informed the Governor, that said battalion was destitute of money, and many articles of clothing necessary for their march; and suggested the difficulties of marching without a sum of money, and the necessary articles of clothing from the State. The Assembly finding that said battalion had but recently received an ample supply of clothing, except stockings, shoes, and shirts; and that the men would probably soon receive their pay, or so much as would be necessary to procure said articles, and assist them on their march; the Governor was therefore requested to write to the commanding officer of said battalion, upon the subject, informing him that he expects him to march said battalion to the place of destination, according to his order, as soon as the circumstances of said battalion would allow, and to excite him to surmount every obstacle that might hinder the necessary service required. And the Governor and Council of Safety were authorized (if necessary) to afford such aid as they might judge expedient, to expedite the march, and charge the expenses to the United States.

The authority and powers of the Governor, were vested in the Lieutenant Governor, in the absence of the Governor, and devolved upon the Deputy Governor and Council of Safety, to be executed.

A committee was appointed in the year 1775, to work the ore at the lead mine at Middletown, and the sum of £500 appropriated for that purpose; but the Assembly were informed that the manufacture of said ore was unprofitable to the State. The committee were therefore directed to discontinue any farther smelting of lead at said mine, after having finished the ore, then on hand.

The General Assembly, in October, 1777, ordered £5250, in bills of 2 pence, 3 pence, 4 pence, 5 pence, and 7 pence, 60,000 bills of each to be issued; and appointed John Chester and others, a committee to sign said bills, without fee or reward. And with such pay, it was found burdensome; therefore the Assembly added to said committee, Col. Isaac Lee, Maj. Gad Stanly, Mr. Pierpont Edwards, Mr. Ezra Brownson, Ephraim Root, Constant Southworth, Lynd Lord, Reuben Smith, Esq., Mr. Thomas Hayes, Maj. Herzekiah Bissell, Col. C. Sage, and Joseph Webb, to assist in signing said bills, without fees for said service.

It was resolved by the Assembly, that Richmond Berry, Philip Buck, Thomas Silk, Edward Hicks, Edward Hicks, Jr., John Young, Jacob Bowman, Adam Bowman, Jr., Jacob Brenner, John Henry Short, Henry Hover, John Hover, Nicholas Philips, Nicholas Philips, Jr., John Philips, Jacob Anguish, George Rentner, and Frederick Frank, who were taken in arms against the United States, by the militia of Westmoreland, and sent to the deputy commissary general of prisoners in this State, were ordered, received, and treated as prisoners of war: Provided that nothing in the aforesaid resolve, should be construed to excuse said prisoners from any treasonable offence against the laws of other States.

A resolution passed to immediately raise a company, consisting of 1 subaltern, 3 sergeants, and 30 privates, by voluntary enlistment, to guard the treasury and loan office, the secretary and pay table offices, agreeable to an order from the Treasurer, Secretary, and committee of pay table; to receive half pay, and be exempt from other military duty, while continued in service, and to continue in said service until the 1st day of June, 1778.

By a letter from Gen. Parsons, of the 27th of February, 1778, stating that a number of teams were absolutely necessary, for the transportation of provisions from the line of the State of New York, to King's Ferry, and other places on the North river, for the use of the troops under Gen. Washington, which could not be procured in the ordinary way. The Assembly therefore resolved, that upon application made by Gen. Parsons, to any assistant or justice of the peace, in Fairfield or Litchfield counties, praying that teams might be impressed, &c., that warrants should be issued to impress such number of teams as Gen. Parsons should direct, and apply to the quarter master general for payment of the expenses.

It was resolved, that each lieutenant, adjutant, and quarter master in the regiments of Col's. Enos and Ely, (who were ordered out of this State, and subjected to great hardships and expense,) should receive the sum of £6; and each ensign the sum of £5, for their extraordinary marches and expenses.

The three regiments of light horse of this State, west of Connecticut river, marched in the summer of 1776, under Lieut. Col. Thomas Seymour, to aid the continental army then at New York, for which service they had received no

pay. The Assembly directed Col. Seymour, forthwith, to procure from the captains of each troop in said regiments, a pay roll of the troop while in service, and make a pay abstract, and present the same to the commander-in-chief of the continental army, or other proper officer, for acceptance and payment, and pay over the same to the captain of each troop, and by said captain to be paid to the troops in their several companies their several dues.

The Assembly appointed Roger Enos, Esq., colonel; Howell Woodbridge, lieutenant colonel; and Abel Pease, major, of one of the six battalions, to be raised for the defence of the State and United States.

Thaddeus Cook, colonel; James Arnold, lieutenant colonel; and Abraham Tyler, major, of one of said battalions.

Samuel Mott, colonel; Nathan Gallop, lieutenant Colonel; and Joshua Huntington, major, of one of said battalions.

John Mead, colonel; Ely Mygatt, lieutenant colonel; and Eleazer Curtiss, major, of one of said battalions.

Noadiah Hooker, colonel; Seth Smith, lieutenant colonel; and Bezaleel Beebe, major, of one of said battalions.

Samuel McLellan, colonel; Thomas Brown, lieutenant colonel; and Levi Welles, major, of one of said battalions.

It was found by the Assembly, that the transporting of private property, the goods and effects of particular persons from place to place, in and through this State, had greatly increased and employed so large a number of oxen, as was likely to lessen the business of agriculture, particularly the raising of grain and provisions, and shorten the supply of beef for the use of the army. To prevent which, it was enacted, that after the 1st day of April, 1778, no private property, (i. e.) no goods, wares, merchandise, or effects, not the property of the United States, or any of the States, unless by the order of some lawful officer of the State or the United States, should be transported from place to place in this State, or through the same, by any inhabitants, or oxen owned in this State, in or on any wagon, cars, carts, or carriages, wherein should be used more than one pair of oxen, on penalty of forfeiting all such goods, &c. as aforesaid, and all oxen more than one pair. It was made the duty of all continental officers, and other persons, who should employ any teams or carriages for transporting goods, &c., where more than one pair of oxen were used, to furnish the driver of such team, or the conductor of any number of teams, where more than one yoke should be employed, with a written permit, signed with the name and office, date and time when given, place from and to which, such goods were destined, the owner and number of teams employed therein; without which no team was allowed to pass in this State. It was made the duty of grand jurors and constables of the towns, and of freeholders, who had taken the oath of fidelity, to inquire and take up any such suspected teams, and make due inquiry of the drivers or conductors of such teams, as to the ownership, &c. of such goods and teams; and if it should be found that said goods, &c., were transported contrary to said law, the court before whom an examination should be had, was to give orders for the safe keeping of such goods, and all oxen, more than one pair as aforesaid. And it was the duty of such court, to certify all the proceedings to the next county court, in the county where said teams were stopped; and if no person appeared at said court to claim said oxen, &c., or satisfy the court that said goods, &c., were, when seized, transporting within the liberty of this law;

such court should sentence said goods and oxen forfeited to the Treasurer of the State, and one-half to be paid the informer, (all costs first deducted,) and sold by the sheriff, &c., at public vendue, or as said court should direct. It was also provided, that in case such driver or conductor should neglect or refuse to produce his permit, when required, no costs should be allowed him on the trial of his case. Which said act was not to extend to teams transporting masts, mill stones, iron ore, and pig iron, wood, or to any person using his own or neighbor's oxen in or about his usual and lawful business within the town where he resided, or carrying his provisions to market to a convenient town, for the use of such town, or returning home with such effects as he should have occasion to carry; which act was to continue in force until the rising of the Assembly, to be held in May, 1778.

Amos Hubbell, and others, shewed the Assembly, that the guard of 25 men, under Lieut. Aaron Hawley, stationed at Newfield, in Stratford, had been confined in a place illy calculated to discover the enemy, or prevent their landing, should they attempt; and that great uneasiness had been given to the inhabitants at Newfield; and prayed that a sargeant's guard might be appointed, and stationed on the sound, near the dividing line between Fairfield and Stratford; and that said Hawley and his company should be dismissed. The Assembly directed the colonel of the 4th regiment to order a sargeant's guard stationed in the most convenient place, near said dividing line, on the sound, and continue there during the pleasure of the Assembly. And said Hawley was directed to deliver the two field pieces, and public stores in his custody, to the commanding officers of the 4th regiment, when said Hawley and his party were to be dismissed.

Maj. Thomas Bull complained against cornet Asahel Hays and cornet William Wadsworth, for disobedience of orders. The Assembly dismissed said Hays and said Wadsworth from office, with costs, being £11 : 11 : 2.

Capt. Eliphalet Curtiss complained against Lieut. Elijah Case, for desertion, &c. The Assembly cashiered said Case, and ordered him to pay the cost, taxed at £5 : 9.

Samuel Chapman, Esq., colonel of the 22d regiment of militia, in this State, complained against Paul Blodget, captain of the 6th company, in said regiment; stating that said Blodget, when ordered into public service near New York, in the year 1777, attempted to desert said service, and occasioned uneasiness in said company, &c. The Assembly ordered said Blodget cashiered of his office, and to pay the cost, taxed at 15 shillings, lawful money. And the colonel was directed to lead the company to the choice of another captain.

The town of Guilford, stated to the Assembly, that in pursuance of a recommendation of the Assembly, in October, 1776, they, at the expense of said town, set guards, equal in respect to time and numbers, to 51 men, eight months, and prayed relief therefor. The Assembly ordered paid to the selectmen of said Guilford, to defray said expenses, the wages and rations of 2 lieutenants, 2 sargeants, 4 corporals, and 43 privates, for four months, and the rations estimated at 8 pence per ration.

The sum of £21 : 2 : 6 was allowed Lemuel Deming, for expenses of the sickness of his son, with the small pox and dysentery, in the army, in the year 1777.

James Hinman and Israel Burritt, of Durham, were employed in October, 1777, by the selectmen of Durham, to transport articles of clothing to the companies of captains Robinson, Camp, and Norton, in the regiment then commanded by

Lieut. Col. Baldwin, at Fishkill ; for which services they asked compensation of the Assembly ; and the pay table were ordered to adjust their accounts, and give orders for the payment thereof.

Joshua Stone, who was confined in New York as a spy, and escaped, and was apprehended in Stamford, tried, imprisoned, and fined £20. The Assembly ordered the release of said Stone from prison, on his taking the oath of fidelity, and paying the State Treasurer £30 lawful money, and enlist into the continental army, in any regiment raised by the State, to serve during the war, or for three years.

Michael Towsley, of Suffield, asked the Assembly to remunerate him for £20 of public money burned in his mother's house, which was allowed him.

On the memorial of the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield, it was shewn, that the British troops, on their march to Danbury, plundered a great number of families of every thing in their houses, that was subject of plunder, as well as their cattle, horses, and teams, and took the same away with them ; whereby some persons were reduced to abject poverty and distress, who previously had lived comfortably, &c., prayed the Assembly for some allowance. The Assembly appointed Col. Thomas Fitch and Thaddeus Betts, Esq., of Norwalk, and Lemuel Sanford, Esq., of Redding, a committee to enquire and estimate the losses of each individual in said Fairfield, by the British troops on their route to Danbury, and report the same.

David Manvill, Josse Tuttle, and Ephraim Warner, of Waterbury, stated to the Assembly, that they had been induced to join the enemy, and served them until November, 1777, when they escaped, returned, and were committed to prison, and prayed the Assembly to be pardoned therefor. The Assembly granted a pardon to each of them, and allowed them to receive so much of their goods as consisted in household furniture, and tools of their trades, from the officers who held them in custody, notwithstanding seizure and condemnation, by their paying all costs that had arisen.

The Assembly allowed Edward Hinman, Esq., £22:16:9 for taking care of nine prisoners of war, sent to the committee of inspection at Woodbury, by the Committee of Safety of the State of New York, on the 22d day of October, 1776.

Samuel Dickerman and George Dudley, of New Haven, shewed to the Assembly, that in pursuance of orders, in August, 1776, they marched to New York, for the defence of that city, under Capt. Goodyear, in Col. Thomson's regiment, and did their duty in their stations while in New York ; and that during the cannonade, they were ordered to take care of a sick soldier of said company, which they did in great hazard to themselves ; that they attempted to get said sick soldier into some hospital or private house, both of which they failed in accomplishing ; and as they supposed his recovery depended on his returning home, they procured a carriage, and conveyed him home, &c. ; in consequence of which they were returned as deserters, and deprived of their wages, &c. The Assembly ordered the pay table to examine and adjust their account of wages, and draw on the Treasurer for payment.

Moses and Patience Northrop and Eunice Northrop, shewed the Assembly, that said Patience and Eunice were confined in Litchfield gaol, upon suspicion of treason against the State, and prayed to be admitted to bail ; which was

granted, by each of them giving bail, with good sureties, for the sum of £200 lawful money, in the usual manner.

Cornelius Higgins, Jr., of East Haddam, an ensign in captain Tyler's company, under Col. J. Huntington, in 1776, shewed the Assembly, that by the fortune of war he was made a prisoner on the 27th day of August, 1776, and so continued until the 13th day of April, 1777; during which time he was robbed of his watch, and some money, and expended a considerable sum for his support, and asked the Assembly for allowance. The Assembly allowed him £11 : 10 lawful money.

The selectmen of Preston, shewed the Assembly, that on the 13th day of January, 1777, one Matthias Button, a soldier in Capt. J. Brewster's company, under Col. Huntington, arrived in Preston from his captivity in New York, having been taken on Long Island, in an action with the British troops, on the 27th of August, 1776, who was sent out of New York in a flag of truce ship, and landed at Milford, and on his return was taken sick with the small pox in said Preston, and was taken care of until he died, and the said town had expended £16 : 0 : 9 in doctoring, nursing, &c. The pay table were directed, by the Assembly, to adjust said account, and charge the same to the United States.

Jonathan Bill, of Lebanon, informed the Assembly, that he was a soldier under Col. Arnold, in the expedition against Quebec, in the year 1775, that his captain, and all the officers of the company were killed, and taken prisoners in the unsuccessful attempt made upon that city, in December, 1775, and he only escaped with the loss of his clothing, arms, &c., while assisting to carry off the wounded; and by the death of all the officers, no pay roll had been or could be made for said company; and prayed the Assembly to pay him his wages, and make compensation for his losses in his tedious and distressing service. The Assembly ordered the pay table to adjust said account for wages and losses, and charge the same in the account against the United States.

Jehial Bryan, of Milford, shewed the Assembly, that on or about the 20th of March, 1776, the inspection committee of Milford, received intelligence that a sloop had come to an anchor, at Oyster river, and that he was desired to muster and march 20 men to said place, in a stormy night; that he did so, and took possession of said sloop, which had on board a quantity of pork, &c., (contrary to the embargo act,) to transport to the West Indies; that he took said sloop into the port of New Haven; and at a special county court, held on the 22d of April, 1776, forfeited to the treasury of this State, (the cargo of said sloop) 22½ barrels of pork, 60 barrels and 20 tierces of flour. The Assembly ordered £13 lawful money to be paid said Bryan by the Treasurer.

Noah Skinner, of Coventry, was enlisted 7th of May, 1775, and served a campaign under Capt. J. Putnam, Jr., in Gen. Putnam's regiment, at Cambridge, for which he had received no pay, which was allowed him by the Assembly.

John Morehouse, of Danbury, stated to the Assembly, that when the British troops went into Danbury, he through surprise, joined them and went away with them, but soon made his escape, and returned home, and was committed to gaol; and prayed pardon for the offence, which was granted him, by his taking the oath of fidelity, and paying the cost of prosecution.

Doct. Jonathan Havens, Stephen Howell, and others, refugees from Long Island, (then residing in this State) shewed to the Assembly, that at the time the British troops took Long Island, they came into this State, with their families for protection ; that they left much of their effects in the hands of their friends to be secreted and sold as they could, and the avails sent to them for the support of their families ; that by permission they went to said Island to bring to Connecticut, some part of what their friends had saved from the enemy, or the avails thereof, if sold, of their stock and grain, which they received in small parcels of tea, linen, and woolen cloth, &c., for the use of their families, which was their all, which they brought to Saybrook, in a small boat, to the house of one Harris ; when and where one White, a lieutenant in the continental frigate, called the Trumbull, and one Combs, a commander of a whale boat, and other associates, seized said effects, and by force carried them off, and refused to deliver the same to the petitioners ; for which relief was asked of the Assembly. The Assembly appointed William Noyes, Samuel Field, and Ezra Selden, Esq's., with full powers, as speedily as might be, to notify all parties concerned, enquire into the case, and report to the Assembly, or in their recess to the Governor and Committee of Safety ; said committee were also directed to take into their custody all said effects, taken from the petitioners, by Combs, White, and others.

The Assembly adjourned *sine die*.







EDWARDS, JONATHAN (1703-1765)

Governor of Connecticut from 1760 to 1783





A

BRIEF MEMOIR OF

HIS EXCELLENCY

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

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**JOHN TRUMBULL**, the ancestor of the Trumbull family in this State, is said to have emigrated from Cumberland county, in England, and settled in Rowly, in Massachusetts: His second son, John Trumbull, (or Trumble) was a gentleman of distinction. He removed to Suffield, now in this State, (but then claimed by Massachusetts.) He had three sons, viz: John, Joseph, and Benoni. John was a clergyman of distinction in Watertown, in Connecticut. His son John was the author of *McFingal* and other valuable productions. Benoni was a clergyman, at Hebron, in this State. His son Benjamin Trumbull, D. D., was the historian, to whom this State is so much indebted for his early history of Connecticut:—He was a settled clergyman at North Haven. Joseph, the second son of John Trumbull, of Suffield, was a merchant at Lebanon; and the first Governor Trumbull was the son of Joseph Trumbull, of Lebanon, and was there born, June 12, O. S., 1710. He was educated at Harvard College, where he graduated in 1727, with the honors of the Institution, in reward of his industry and talents. Modest, yet accomplished in his mind and demeanor, he was fully qualified to become a useful member of society, and conspicuous in any business that should occupy his gigantic mind. Soon after he graduated, his attention was drawn to the study of theology with the Rev. S. Williams, of his own native town. He was soon licensed to preach, and immediately after was invited to settle in the ministry in the town of Colchester. At this time an elder brother, who was in business with his father, had sailed for London, in June, 1731.—

For a long time a forlorn hope was entertained that the vessel had been captured by the Algerines ; but distressing as was even this hope, time proved to be fallacious, and the vessel was never again heard from.

The loss of this son, with the vessel and cargo, which wholly belonged to the family, so severely afflicted the father, that he found himself unfitted to close his mercantile concerns without the aid of his surviving son, (Jonathan,) who, with reluctance, declined the call of the church at Colchester.

He left his profession, and closed up the business of his deceased brother, and commenced business for himself. He was many years a merchant at Lebanon, imported his goods directly from England ; being strictly an upright dealer, he soon secured the confidence of the public. At the early age of 23, (in 1733,) he was elected a member of the General Assembly of the colony, where his strong powers of mind, and public business habits, were perceived ; by which he rapidly rose in office. And at the May session of the Legislature, 1739, he was chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives. And at the May session of said Assembly, 1740, he was elected one of the Assistants, or a member of the Council, where he was continued for many years, to do honor to himself and his State. In 1766, he was elected Lieutenant Governor, in which office he was continued until 1770 ; by virtue of which office, he became by law the Chief Judge of the Superior Court. Governor Pitkin, in 1770, being advanced in life, felt disposed, at his advanced age, to avoid the absorbing subjects which then agitated the public mind, viz. : the right of the British Parliament to tax the colonies ; the passage of the stamp act, &c. ; which caused great excitement throughout the colonies. Though Governor Pitkin and some of the Assistants, took the oath enjoined by the British government, yet Lieut. Gov. Trumbull, sternly refused to take the oath, or see others demean themselves in so doing. No man in the colony at that time more coolly resisted the arbitrary acts of Parliament, or was more active, ardent, and energetic in the cause of his country than Jonathan Trumbull. In 1770, the electors of the colony, feeling that in those times of danger and distress, the most efficient, and energetic men in the colony should be placed at the head of the colonial Government, (and Gov. Pitkin wishing to retire) they elected Mr. Trumbull, Governor of the colony, to which office

he was successively elected until 1784. He was the only Governor when the war of the revolution commenced, who engaged in the cause of his country; and he held his office during the whole period of that eventful struggle. He was the most firm where there was the greatest danger. His persevering spirit in the most gloomy period, his ardor and zeal in his country's cause, endeared him to every whig in the colony and country. As a statesman, his opinions were clear, correct, and bold, while the soundness of his opinions was uniformly proved by the result. He was strictly a *thinking* and an honest man.

“His diligence, ability, and fidelity, were fully tested by the manner in which he performed the immense amount of business entrusted to him,” a small part of which appear in the pages following this short biography of his life and history, with his Council of Safety, who sat with him during the war, in the recess of the General Assembly.

In addition to his duties as Governor, in attendance with the Legislature, from three to five sessions in a year, he sat in Council during the war more than 1200 days. His immense correspondence with the Governors of the other colonies, with General Washington, and other officers of the army, and with foreigners, must have occupied much of his time and attention. He was at all times prompt to comply with the requisitions of Gen. Washington for supplies of men, provisions, and money, to the full extent of his ability or the ability of the State. Connecticut was a great producing State, and furnished the United States with more troops and produce and munitions of war, according to her size, population, and ability, than any other State in the Union.

The correspondence of the Governor continued till his death.

“The services of Gov. Trumbull, throughout the war, were of very great importance, not only to Connecticut, but to the United States. During the whole American war, he showed himself the honest and unshaken patriot, the wise and able magistrate. No man ever loved his country more. No man could guide the ship of state with more care. He was, happily, permitted to live to see the day when his native land enjoyed the blessings of peace, and the glory of her independence.

“In October, 1783, Gov. Trumbull declined any further election to public office. “A few days,” said he, in his address to



the General Assembly, " will bring me to the anniversary of my birth ; seventy-three years of my life will then be completed ; and, next May, fifty-one years will have passed since I was first honored with the confidence of the people in a public character. During this period, in different capacities, it has been my lot to be called to public service almost without interruption. Fourteen years I have had the honor to fill the chief seat of government. With what carefulness, with what zeal and attention to your welfare, I have discharged the duties of my several stations, some few of you, of equal age with myself, can witness for me from the beginning. During the latter period, none of you are ignorant of the manner in which my public life has been occupied ! The watchful cares and solicitude of an eight years' distressing and unusual war have also fallen to my share, and have employed many anxious moments of my latest time ; which have been cheerfully devoted to the welfare of my country. Happy am I to find that all these cares, anxieties, and solitudes are amply compensated by the noble prospect which now opens to my fellow citizens, of a happy establishment (if we are but wise to improve the precious opportunity) in peace, tranquillity, and national independence. With sincere and lively gratitude to Almighty God, our great protector and deliverer, and most hearty congratulations to all our citizens, I felicitate you, gentlemen, the other freemen, and all the good people of the State, in this glorious prospect.

" " Impressed with these sentiment of gratitude and felicitation, reviewing the long course of years in which, through various events, I have had the pleasure to serve the State ; contemplating, with pleasing wonder and satisfaction, at the close of an arduous contest, the noble and enlarged scences which now present themselves to my country's view ; and reflecting, at the same time, on my advanced stage of life—a life worn out almost in the constant cares of office—I think it my duty to retire from the busy concerns of public affairs : that at the evening of my days I may sweeten their decline by devoting myself with less avocation and more attention to the duties of religion, the service of my God, and preparation for a future and happier state of existence ; in which pleasing employment I shall not cease to remember my country, and to make it my ardent prayer that Heaven will not fail to bless her with its choisest favors.

“ ‘ At this conspicuous moment, therefore, of my country’s happiness, when she has thus reached the goal of her wishes, and obtained the object for which she has so long contended, and so nobly struggled, I have to request the favor from you, gentlemen, and through you, from all the freemen of the State, that, after May next, I may be excused from any further service in public life ; and that from this time I may be no longer considered as an object<sup>1</sup> of your suffrages for any public employment in the State.’

“ After thanking the Assembly for the aid which they had always afforded him in the discharge of his duties, the Governor availed himself of his experience, and rendered his last address “ an advisory legacy” to his constituents.

“ Governor Trumbull was seized with a malignant fever, and, after a few days’ illness, died on the 17th of August, 1785.

“ The following letter, addressed by General Washington, to Jonathan Trumbull, the Governor’s son, will be read with interest.

“ ‘ MOUNT VERNON, Oct. 1st, 1785.

“ ‘ MY DEAR SIR,

“ ‘ It has so happened that your letter of the first of last month, did not reach me until Saturday’s post.

“ ‘ You know too well the sincere respect and regard I entertained for your venerable father’s public and private character, to require assurance of the concern I felt for his death ; or of that sympathy in your feelings, for the loss of him, which is prompted by friendship. Under this loss, however, great as your pangs may have been at the first shock, you have every thing to console you.”

“ ‘ *A long and well spent life in the service of his country, places GOVERNOR TRUMBULL among the first of patriots.* In the social duties he yielded to no one ; and his lamp, from the common course of nature being nearly extinguished, worn down with age and cares, but retaining his mental faculties in perfection, are blessings which rarely attend advanced life. All these combined, have secured to his memory unusual respect and love here, and, no doubt, unmeasurable happiness hereafter.

“ ‘ I am sensible that none of these observations can have escaped you, that I can offer nothing which your own reason has

not already suggested upon the occasion ; and being of Sterne's opinion, that ' before an affliction is digested, consolation comes too soon, and after it is digested it comes too late, there is but a mark between these two, almost as fine as a hair, for a comforter to take aim at," I rarely attempt it ; nor should I add more on this subject to you, as it will be a renewal of sorrow, by calling afresh to your remembrance things that had better be forgotten.

" ' My principal pursuits are of a rural nature, in which I have great delight, especially as I am blessed with the enjoyment of good health. Mrs. Washington, on the contrary, is hardly ever well ; but, thankful for your kind remembrance of her, joins me in every good wish for you, Mrs. Trumbull, and your family.

" ' Be assured, that with sentiments of the purest esteem,

" ' I am, Dear Sir, your affectionate friend,

" ' and obedient servant,

" ' GEO. WASHINGTON.' "

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NOTE.—See Allen's and Elliott's Biographical Dictionaries, National Portrait Gallery, Massachusetts Historical Collections, the Records of the State of Connecticut, and the American Quarterly Register of August, 1841.

AN  
  
**EPITOME**

**OF THE ACTS OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF SAFETY,  
OR THE COMMITTEE OF WAR, CALLED BY THE GOVERNOR,  
AND HELD AT DIFFERENT PLACES, FROM THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY  
OF JUNE 1775, UNTIL THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 1778.**

**At a meeting of the Governor and Council, or Committee of War,  
called by his Honor, and held at Lebanon, Wednesday, June  
7, 1775.**

**PRESENT.**

**His Honor, the Governor.**

**The Hon. Deputy Governor, GRISWOLD.**

**The Hon. Jabez Huntington, William Williams, Nathaniel Wales,  
Jedediah Elderkin, Joshua West, and Benjamin Huntington, Esq'rs.,  
Council of Safety.**

**William Williams was appointed Clerk.**

**THE Governor laid before the Board, letters from the Committee of War, the Committee of Safety, and of Supplies, from Massachusetts, and from Generals Spencer and Putnam, at the camp near Boston, all earnestly requesting a quantity of powder to be sent them forthwith. The Governor and Council ordered 50 whole barrels of powder to be sent to the care of Generals Putnam and Spencer, containing 100 pounds each, the property of this colony ; to be packed into common barrels, and the vacant room filled with rye or other grain.**

**Col. Parsons, with the company under his immediate command, and the company under Capt. Chapman, were ordered to march and join the Connecticut troops, at the camp near Boston. Giving the officers in said camp authority to purchase such quantity of fish and lard for the troops at said camp, as should be necessary.**

**IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) June 17. (Samuel Huntington added.)**

The Governor laid before the Committee, letters from Congress, from Generals Spencer and Putnam, &c., for a further supply of powder, at the camp near Boston, &c.

Ordered 50 gun locks of Uri Hanks, at \$2 each.

The six companies of Col. Parsons' regiment, at New London, under Lieut. Col. Tyler, were ordered forthwith to march to the camp near Boston, and to be supplied with ammunition out of the colony stores.

Ten additional barrels of powder were ordered to be sent to Generals Putnam and Spencer from Norwich.

**IN SESSION, (according to adjournment,) June 19.**

The news of the Charlestown engagement was received at Lebanon, on the night of the 18th inst., at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Bissell was ordered to send to the army all the cloth he had, for tents, (sufficient for 40 tents); and Commissary Trumbull, to procure the remainder, and get them all made by the poor tent makers who escaped from Boston, (i. e.) enough to supply Gen. Putnam's regiment.

A letter from Col. Wolcott, requesting a supply for Col. Hinman's regiment, at Ticonderoga, was approved. A letter in answer to Col. Hinman's was also approved.

Our troops near Boston, were directed to have fresh beef three days each week.

The company under Capt. T. Perritt, were ordered to remain at Boston, unless the generals should suppose their continuance unnecessary.

The Governor was advised by the Board, to give orders to the officers and soldiers, to yield obedience to the general commanding officer of the troops of Massachusetts, while they acted in that province, until further orders.

The Assembly of New York, made a request for Gen. Wooster's and Col. Waterbury's regiments, to march within five miles of the city of New York, as they expected troops from Great Britain.

Gen. Wooster was ordered to send two of his companies to New London, and with the remaining seven companies, and Col. Waterbury's regiment, to march to within five miles of New York.

The powder expected from New York, was stopped at Stamford; it was ordered to be sent for, and immediately forwarded to Boston.

**IN SESSION, July 13.**

The Governor laid before the Council various letters; and one he had prepared, congratulating Gen. Washington on his appointment,

&c. ; another line hinting at Gen. Spencer's uneasiness, &c., on being overlooked, and with a small alteration to gratify Gen. Spencer, after he came in, &c., to have him remain at Roxbury, &c.

Samuel Huntington and William Williams, Esq's., were desired to wait on Gen. Spencer, at Gray's Inn, and confer with him on his uneasiness, and endeavor to remove his dissatisfaction, and reconcile him to pursue the service ; which they did.

IN SESSION, (at the Governor's house,) in the afternoon, July 18.

In the afternoon, Gen. Spencer attended at the Governor's house, when a long conference was held on the subject of his being superseded by Gen. Putnam, which he thought to be hard and resented it. At length, however, he was persuaded to return to the army ; and returned to camp with letters to Gen. Washington.

An Indian, by the name of Cognahue, brought despatches from the Indian country.

Capt. Potter, from Coos, came with a written request for powder, but was refused by the Board.

The two companies of Gen. Wooster's regiment, stationed at New London, (the one of them was then at New Haven,) were ordered to march directly to the camp near Boston.

Surgical instruments were not to be included in the £30, allowed for the purchase of medicine for the 8th regiment.

IN SESSION, July 24, (9 o'clock. A. M.)

A post by the name of Judd, had arrived with letters from Ticonderoga, informing the Council that the troops there were destitute of tents, &c. The Governor was advised to write the Congress of New York to provide and send Col. Hinman's regiment at Ticonderoga, a suitable number of tents.

Two thousand barrels of flour were sent to Norwich, by Congress, for the army near Boston, and desired by Gen. Washington to be forwarded to the army ; the freight of which was paid by this colony.

William Williams, Nathaniel Wales, Capt. Deshon, and Capt. Hall were appointed to enquire at Norwich, New London, New Haven, Middletown, Hartford, &c., for proper vessels to be used for armed vessels, and the terms on which they could be procured, &c., and report on the 2d of August (then) next.

At the request of Gen. Washington, the Council advised to order the colonels of the 7th and 8th regiments, to march their regiments as soon as possible, in whole or part companies, to the camp near Boston, and be placed under the commander-in-chief of the continental army.

## IN SESSION, August 2.

The committee appointed to view vessels, &c., for armed vessels, &c., made a verbal report, that many vessels could be had on good terms, but that na one of them was perfectly accommodated for a vessel of war; that people differed about the policy of the measure; some thought we could not compete with the British ships; that it would provoke insult, and expose our sea coasts and vessels inward bound to greater danger; and others that it would be a protection. The Council ordered a brig, called the *Minerva*, owned by Capt. William Griswold, of Wethersfield, of 108 tons, to be prepared for an armed vessel, according to a resolve of the Assembly. Also to charter some small vessel, a fast sailer, of about 20 or 30 tons, and prepare her with such warlike materials as would be needed, to be used chiefly as a spy vessel, to run from place to place, to carry intelligence, discover the enemy, &c. Capt. S. Niles, of Norwich, was appointed captain. B. Huntington, Esq. and Capt. Deshon were appointed to find and fit out and furnish said small vessel.

## IN SESSION, August 3.

Giles Hall was appointed captain of the brig *Minerva*, at £7 per month; Thomas Horsey, of Derby, 1st lieutenant; James Hopkins, 2d lieutenant; Timothy Larrabee, steward; S. Backus, cook; 1 carpenter, 1 pilot, 40 seamen, and 40 soldiers or marines. Capt. Hall was directed to raise the men, and to be paymaster of said seamen and marines or crew, and the Governor desired to grant the commissions and warrants for the officers. Said brig *Minerva* was chartered at 4 shillings, lawful money, per ton, per month, and pay for the extra damage.

The Council ordered two companies, viz: Maj. Latimer's and Capt. Shipman's, to be stationed at New London.

It was ordered, that four of the 6 pound cannon at New London should be delivered to J. Huntington, of Norwich, for the defence of Norwich.

## IN SESSION, August 7.

Mr. Huntington, &c. reported, that they had not yet found a suitable small vessel to be fitted out as a runner and cutter:—they were ordered to make further enquiry.

The news of three or four men-of-war, and eight or ten other ships appearing off New London, (on the 6th of August inst.,) by express; and being further informed by Col. Huntington, that they were bearing for Fisher's Island, with the design of taking the stock, &c. The

Council believed they had reason to apprehend danger and hostile attacks from the ships and others that might be sent to distressus; they judged it of great importance to all, but more especially those at or near the sea coast, to be in a good posture of defence, and therefore desired the Governor to order the colonels of the 3d, 8th, 20th, 7th, and 2d regiments of militia, forthwith to enroll one-fourth part of their regiments, and be equipped with fire arms, powder and balls, &c.; the powder to be taken from town stocks, the cartridges made and lodged with the captains, ready for delivery on any emergency, and the men to be in readiness as minute men, to march at the shortest notice, when attacked by sea or land; and the field officers to appoint the officers for said companies. The Council ordered one other company in Col. Webb's regiment, to march and be stationed at New Haven, and that two cannon at New Haven, should be mounted for field pieces; and ship carriages be prepared for four cannon marked by Williams and Wales, and appointed David Austin, Jonathan Fitch, and William Greenough to see the preparation immediately effected, and to improve Mr. Rice.

Mr. Skinner brought a letter to the Governor from Gen. Washington, requesting the purchase of all the tow cloth that could be procured, for shirts and short coats for uniform dress, &c. for the army; and sent a sample, with a cape ruffled: Accordingly letters were sent by the Governor to all the commissaries in the colony to procure all the tow cloth they could purchase.

A letter was sent to Col. Hamlin, to inform the Governor and Council of his progress in collecting and sending salt petre and sulphur, to New York, to be made into gun powder.

#### IN SESSION, August 14.

Capt. F. Shaw, of Goldsborough, by order of said town, applied for leave to purchase in this colony about 1,500 bushels of corn and rye, and 50 barrels of pork, for the necessary use of the people of Goldsborough. The Governor and Council granted him license, and the Governor gave him a written permit, the embargo notwithstanding.

One Rensselaer, by an order from W. Livingston, a commissary for the New York department, asked the Board for liberty to purchase 450 barrels of pork for the troops at Ticonderoga, as it could not be had at New York,—which was granted to be purchased in the counties of Litchfield and Fairfield.

Col. Saltonstall wrote a letter to the Governor and Council, asking advice, on the propriety of taking stock from the islands, &c., which they declined giving, as it was out of the colony limits; but remarked



that great care should be taken to prevent provisions, &c. (near the water) from falling into the hands of the enemy.

Mr. Huntington reported, that he found but one small vessel, suitable to be a small armed vessel, and that could be purchased at £200, of Hancox, of Stonington, and her sails and rigging were unfit for service. It was ordered by the Governor and Council, that said schooner, (called the *Britannia*,) should be purchased for the colony, and B. Huntington, Esq., Capt. Deshon, and Capt. Niles, were appointed to purchase her at said price, and have her rigged and fitted out as speedily as possible; they also appointed Robert Niles, of Norwich, to be her commander. Capt. Deshon was directed forthwith to put the cannon, small arms, pistols, and every warlike instrument then at New London, which were suitable for armed vessels, into proper condition for immediate use, and to advise with Capt. Hall of the larger armed vessel (then) fitting at Middletown.

#### IN SESSION, August 17.

The 450 barrels of pork purchased by Mr. Rensselaer, in the colony, were for Gen. Schuyler's army at the northward, and the Governor and Council considered the danger too great to carry it by water to New York; therefore sent him positive orders not to ship any pork purchased in this colony to New York, but to transport it by land to the Hudson river, and from thence by water to Albany, which order was sent by Mr. Skinner.

Gen. Washington ordered Gen. Schuyler to send a quantity of lead balls, found at Ticonderoga and Crown Point to Gov. Trumbull, &c. The Governor wrote Gen. Schuyler to send the same to Commissary Phelps, at Albany, and said Phelps to be advised of it, and directed to forward them in the most safe and expeditious manner to Gen. Washington.

Orders were sent to Maj. Latimer, commander of the troops at New London, to keep regular watches and guards about his camp, and see that his soldiers were properly exercised, instructed, and kept clean, and free from idleness and bad practices.

Capt. Lyon was ordered to remain at Norwich Landing, until further orders, and assist the people there, by one half of his company at a time, in building a redoubt, at Waterman's Point, &c., and allow them spirits when in said service; and that the captain should see that proper watches and guards were kept, and the exercises be kept up in good order.

The vast quantity of pork, and other provisions used by the army, rendered provisions extremely scarce; therefore the Council advised

to continue the embargo until the 20th of October, 1775; and the Governor was desired to issue his proclamation accordingly.

The Governor and Council granted an order to pay for 18 blankets and 9 guns, lost at Bunker Hill; to pay Samuel Hunt £3:8:9; to pay David Trumbull for going as an express three times to the army, £8:19; to John Alden for going as an express to Killingly to recall troops on their march to Cambridge, by advice from Gen. Washington; also to pay for a horse, purchased for the Indian Cognahue, to ride to the Oneida Indians, &c. £5.

New Haven selectmen were ordered to prepare carriages for four 6 pound cannon.

IN SESSION, August 21.

Letters had been received from Gen. Schuyler and Col. Hinman, informing the Governor of the great danger of delays from New York, &c., relating to the northern expedition, &c.; also a letter from Maj. Brown, who had been in Canada, and gave a favorable account of the country. A secret letter was shewn to the Council by the Governor, from one Brook Watson to President Livingston, which had been intercepted,—(an ill concern.)

Mr. Hazard, of Edgartown, was permitted to purchase £100 worth of rye and corn, and carry out of the colony.

A letter was sent to President Livingston, of the New York Congress, expressing the Governor's anxiety at their not having provided and sent the tents they engaged for Col. Hinman's regiment, and urging the danger of delays, &c.

A letter was also sent by the Governor and Council to Commissary Phelps, as to the lead to be sent him from Ticonderoga, for the use of the army near Boston, by the desire of Gen. Washington.

IN SESSION, August 24.

A permit was granted James Church, of Hartford, to send to Providence, by water, 300 bushels of wheat, to be ground for the army near Boston; which was done with great doubt of its expediency, lest it might fall into the hands of the British.

Benjamin Huntington and Ephraim Bill were appointed a committee to oversee and direct the building a battery, &c. at Waterman's Point, in New London river.

Various accounts were offered for guns, blankets, &c., which had been impressed by the Governor's order, to supply the loss of our soldiers at Bunker's Hill. N. Frink, 6 guns and 10 blankets, procured at Pomfret, £20:14; Wales & Bissell, 10 guns and 25 blankets, for

Windham, £40 : 1 ; Mr. Chandler, of Woodstock, 6 guns and 10 blankets, £19 : 13 ; Capt. Bacon, of Canterbury, for guns and blankets, £20 : 1 : 6 ; Mr. Leffingwell, of Norwich, 20 guns and 40 blankets, £67 : 9 : 6.

IN SESSION, September 4.

The Governor laid before the Council, a request of the General Assembly of Massachusetts, communicated by the Hon. J. Otis, President of their Council, informing the Governor and Council, that the gaols in that colony were crowded with prisoners, and wishing to send some of their prisoners into Connecticut. Although our own prisons were much wanted for our prisoners from the northward, and Tories at home ; yet for the great affection for the common cause, the Governor and Council did not refuse to receive some of their prisoners, on condition that they should apply to Rhode Island and New Hampshire Assemblies for like favors, and send as sparingly to Connecticut as possible ; and that such as they should send, should be sent to the gaols in Hartford and Windham.

Col. Saltonstall and Capt. Deshon were present as a committee from New London, and Maj. Smith and Capt. Palmer, from Stonington. The latter stated that Stonington had been lately attacked and fired upon, and asked the Governor and Council for some military companies to be stationed at Stonington ; and both committees prayed for aid to erect works for defence, &c.

Two companies, viz. : Capt. Bostwick's and Capt. Tyler's, and a part of a company under Capt. Lieut. Hubbard, were ordered to be stationed at or near Stonington harbor ; and the other companies to remain at New London, under Maj. Lattimer ; and the soldiers at both places were directed to make such intrenchments and works of defence as should be directed by the civil authority and field officers in those towns. It was also ordered that Capt. Rowlee's company should be sent to Lyme, under the direction of the Deputy Governor and civil authority of that town, and keep proper watches and guards.

Information was received from Maj. Lattimer, that one of the vessels taken by Capt. Wallace, of the *Rose* man-of-war, &c., at Stonington, was by stress of weather driven back to New London, with one white man, a petty officer, and three negroes on board, who were in his custody ; and he asked how to dispose of them. Two of said negroes had been robbed and taken by Capt. Wallace from Deputy Governor Cook, of Rhode Island, the other from Capt. Collins. The Governor and Council ordered Maj. Lattimer to deliver the vessel to the actual owner ; send the white man to gaol in Windham ; and the three

negroes to be employed by Capt. Niles, at Norwich, until notice should be given to their masters.

IN SESSION, September 8.

Ezekiel Williams, Esq., reported the armed brig *Minerva* nearly ready, and wished the officers all appointed. James Hopkins was appointed 1st lieutenant, instead of Horsey, declined; Jehial Tinker, 2d lieutenant, instead of Hopkins; Andrew Jehonnot, steward, instead of T. Larrabee; Wm. Plummatt, master; Wm. Warner, mate; Benjamin Cranston, gunner. And she was ordered to be supplied with five barrels of powder and suitable balls, from New London, and 300 pounds of lead, from Wethersfield.

Three companies, under Col. Webb, at Greenwich, were ordered to New Haven, to erect intrenchments at five mile point, or elsewhere, as Colonels Webb and Hall should advise; on condition that if the report in circulation, of the troops coming to New York, should appear to Col. Webb to be true, that he should remain at Greenwich until farther orders.

As this colony, at the time aforesaid, was greatly in advance as to men and money to sustain the war, and as Congress had resolved, that all expenses of the war should be borne by the united colonies in just proportions, and had emitted a continental currency to aid in the expenses; yet this colony had loaned the colonies £15,000 lawful money, (i. e.) to Gen. Schuyler, on the request and credit of Congress; and had also advanced large sums to carry on the war; it therefore became necessary to apply to Congress for £50,000 of said continental money, in addition to the amount paid Gen. Schuyler. Wm. Williams and Nathaniel Wales, were appointed agents, to proceed immediately to Philadelphia, to procure said sum of £65,000. £2,000 was voted to be paid to N. Shaw, to purchase gun powder. £100 was voted for Capt. Niles, of the schooner *Spy*, to prepare the vessel and pay his men.

IN SESSION, September, 14. (Six of the Council present.)

A letter from Gen. Washington, requiring peremptorily and unconditionally, that all the last raised troops in this colony should be sent to him, at the camp near Boston, was laid before the Council. On this there was great consideration. The troops were much wanted in the colony at their stations in New Haven, New London, and Lyme, to throw up and build works of defence against the British ships that were hovering about the eastern coast of the colony. These but a short time before, had cannonaded Stonington, and threats repeatedly made

after that attack, rendered it probable that some other places on the coast would soon be attacked by the British, and therefore that the removal of the troops to Boston would greatly endanger the towns on the coasts in the colony ; but, fearing, that should they refuse to send said troops, advantage would be taken against the colony, and though they would not be as useful at the camp, as they would be in their employments at their stations, yet it was thought most prudent to comply with the demand ; and they were immediately ordered to march to the camp near Boston. And that our towns near the sea board (that were then left naked and defenceless, and the works of defence dropt, or at least stayed,) should be protected, and provided ; it was ordered to enlist 50 men, under Maj. Oliver Smith, for the defence of Stonington, and for carrying on the works began there, until the 20th of October, 1775. And 70 men were ordered to be raised in the same manner and for the same purposes at New London, under Col. Saltonstall ; and 20 men to be raised at Lyme, to watch and guard at Black Point, Black Hall, &c., where the cattle and stock were the most exposed to be plundered, under Lee Lay, as ensign ; also to raise 50 men at New Haven, to be employed there for defence, and to erect works of defence, if thought advisable by the people at New Haven,—to be under such officers as should be nominated by Wm. Williams and Nath'l. Wales. A half ton of powder was ordered to be sent to Gen. Washington.

A letter was received from the Deputy Governor of Rhode Island, proposing that this colony should join them in sending to Bayonne, for powder, by a French ship, manned with French sailors. An answer was given, that the colony had expended their money so largely in the article of powder that their funds were nearly exhausted, and though they expected a supply, they refused the offer, but recommended to him to propose the measure to Gen. Washington.

Thompson Phillips was appointed 2d lieutenant, instead of J. Tinker, a commissioned officer in the armed brig Minerva.

Widow Smith, of New London, stated that the prisoners who had lately been driven back to New London by stress of weather, in a vessel piratically taken from Stonington, by Capt. Wallace, of the Rose man-of-war, were confined at Windham ; and prayed that said prisoners might be exchanged for her son, Amos Smith, B. Green, and N. Comstock, who had been taken by said Wallace in New London harbor ; which was agreed to be done, and so ordered.

IN SESSION, September 22.

Granted Gov. Trumbull £32 : 4 : 9 cash paid for postage of letters, &c.

IN SESSION, October 4.

Pennel Cheeny was appointed surgeon to the 3d regiment of forces raised for the defence of the colony, at £7 : 10 per month.

IN SESSION, October 9.

Capt. Hall, of the brig *Minerva*, was ordered on a cruise with said brig, by a request from the Continental Congress, as appears by President Hancock's letter of October 5, 1775; and J. Wadsworth was directed to supply said brig with her provisions and warlike stores, for a six months cruise, and to provide 600 pounds of powder for said brig.

One hundred and fifty pounds of powder were ordered for the schooner *Spy*.

Hon. M. Griswold was appointed to meet, in behalf of the Governor, a committee of Congress, and others, to consult with Gen. Washington, at Cambridge, on the 12th of October, 1775, on matters of great importance, and in pursuance of an appointment of Congress.

The sum of £2,000 in continental money were loaned Capt. Wadsworth 2d November, 1775. Doct. John Waldo was allowed £13 for his services, &c., as surgeon two months in Col. Huntington's regiment. £100 was paid David Trumbull for repairing 180 guns sent from Crown Point.

When the brig *Minerva*, which had been ordered on a cruise to the northward on an important enterprise, attempted to set sail; all her hands, except ten or twelve, refused to obey orders, and perform the cruise. In consequence of this disobedience, the expedition wholly failed. The Governor and Council ordered the disobedient hands to be discharged from service, and their wages and titles to be suspended for an after consideration.

Hon. M. Griswold, S. Huntington, and B. Huntington, Esq's., were appointed to go to Lyme or Saybrook, and discharge the disobedient marines on board said brig, and to empower Capt. Hall to enlist others to supply their places.

It was stated by the Governor that he expected an engineer from Gen. Washington, to view the harbors at New London, &c., and report such places as should prove the most proper for fortifying against the enemy. The Governor and Council appointed Col. Elderkin and Maj. Dorr, of Boston, (then at Norwich) to assist the engineer in the service.

The Governor wished to be advised as to the propriety of recommending Mr. Moses Cleveland to Gen. Washington, for an officer. It was referred to the Governor's discretion.

IN SESSION, November 3.

This meeting was specially called on the receipt of a letter from New Haven, by Mr. Babcock, to provide for the safety of the inhabitants of that town ; stating the alarming intelligence that orders had been received by the British to destroy all the sea port towns. The Governor and Council resolved and ordered that 20 men should be enlisted by Capt. Thomson in addition to the 30 men raised by order of the Assembly, and continued until the 1st of December (then) next, and employed under Capt. Thomson in building a breastwork and battery, to repel any hostile attack from any of the British ships, at Black Rock, on the eastern shore of the harbor, under the direction of a committee appointed by the town. The Governor was requested to write to the committee of the city of New York, in favor of New Haven, for the loan of eighteen pieces of iron cannon, 18 and 24 pounders, or of less size, viz. : (of 12 pounders) if larger ones could not be obtained, (at the risk of the colony, if spoiled or lost.) 100 of the colony arms were ordered (for New Haven,) from the counties of New Haven or Litchfield, and to be returned.

Letters were laid before the Council, by the Governor, which stated that the Pennites, on the west branch of the Susquehannah river, were about to come, 500 in number, armed, to drive off the Connecticut settlers from the Wyoming country. The Council viewed it as having a most dangerous tendency, to break the union of the colonies, and esteemed it a plan, probably concerted by enemies with that view. The Governor was desired to address Congress on the subject, and endeavor to have the matter quieted.

A letter was sent by the Governor and Council to the committee at Hartford, who had the charge of prisoners of war, which informed them of a number of men that were coming from Chamblee, and advised them to be distributed in Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, &c., and to keep families together.

IN SESSION, November, 22.

Dr. Church was sent by Gen. Washington, to Lebanon, under a guard of Capt. Putnam, and a sargeant with 7 men, by a resolve of the General Congress, that Dr. Church should be closely confined in some secure gaol in the colony of Connecticut, without pen, paper, or ink ; and that no person should be allowed to converse with him, except in the presence and hearing of a magistrate, or a sheriff of the county where he should be confined, and in the English language, until further orders from Congress. Signed per order of Congress, Philadelphia, November 6, 1775, by John Hancock, President. Accompanying the



above was a letter requesting the Governor and Council to comply in every particular with the words of the resolution, signed by Gen. Washington. The Governor and Council directed said Church to be confined in the gaol at Norwich, as required by the resolution, until further orders from Congress.

Six hundred pounds of powder were directed to be sent to New Haven, to the care of Col. John Fitch, &c. ; 200 pounds of which were ordered to Norwalk.

By a request of New Haven, the troops at New London, New Haven, Stonington, and Lyme, whose time of service would expire on the 1st of December, were ordered to be continued until the next session of the General Assembly, or until farther orders.

The Governor was desired, by the Council, to write to and employ sundry persons in the western towns in this colony, to provide persons to be in readiness at a moment's warning, to convey any intelligence of alarm or invasion to any town or place, as occasion should require; and advise the Congress of New York of the provision made.

Col. Elderkin, who had been appointed, &c., reported, that it would be expedient to erect fortifications at New London harbor, at Mannacock, Winthrop's Point, and Groton Hill. And the men stationed at New London were ordered to erect proper works of defence at Groton Hill, at Winthrop's Point, or at Mannacock, under the direction of Col. Saltonstall, Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., John Deshon, Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., P. Avery, and Josiah Watrous.

The Governor and Council were requested, by this colony, to apply to the Continental Congress, for a number not exceeding 50 cannon, from 12 to 32 pounders, some brass, from St. John's, or any other northern posts (then) lately taken by the northern army, to be used at New London.

The Governor and Council recommended to the county court of New London county, to erect immediately, a high and sufficient yard to enclose the gaol, to prevent communication from without with the prisoners; which had been requested by Congress and by Gen. Washington, particularly in the case of Dr. Church, who was confined in said prison.

Capt. Niles, of the Spy, informed the Governor and Council, that a vessel at Sag Harbor, Long Island, was loading with provisions, bound for Nantucket, and without a permit, and he suspected the provisions were designed for the British troops. The resolution of Congress, passed on the 6th of November, 1775, was ordered to be sent to Capt. Niles, to instruct him how to proceed.



Several prisoners, at Farmington, from Chamblee, in Canada, were turbulent and disorderly, and refused to abide faithful prisoners, &c. It was suspected that they wished to be imprisoned, to complain of harsh treatment on their return. The Governor and Council ordered a vigilant watch kept over them, even at an extra expense, to prevent their escape.

IN SESSION, December 6.

It was voted, that the vessel of the captain and other officers and sailors of the armed vessel (then lately) taken near St. John's, (said officers, &c. then at Canaan,) should be disposed of for the benefit of the towns in Litchfield county, for taking care of prisoners.

Capt. William Hunter, Lieut. John Smith, Dr. Thomas Sundon, John Kent, William Kent, and a Sarg't. Smith, who were taken prisoners at St. John's, were sent to this colony to be quartered and kept. The Governor and Council directed them to reside within the town of Wethersfield upon their parole of honor not to depart from the town until further orders ; and the committee for taking charge of prisoners, were ordered to take charge of and provide for them.

A letter was received from Gen. Washington, informing the Governor and Council, that several of our soldiers, under Gen. Putnam, had deserted the army, (by claiming their time of service had expired ; ) that he had sent after them, and highly resenting their conduct, and asking for them to be made examples of, &c. The Governor and Council considered their conduct very reprehensible, and considered them deserters, though their time had nearly expired ; considered it a critical time to form a new army, and doubted their power to act upon the subject, and therefore referred it to the next General Assembly ; and wrote to Gen. Washington on the subject.

IN SESSION, (at New Haven,) December 22.

An order of £100 in favor of Capt. Niles, was drawn on the pay table, for the use of his men on board the armed schooner Spy.

The sum of £115 : 8 : 6 was allowed Messrs. Greenough, Fitch, and Austin for carriages for cannon at New Haven.

Capt. Thomson and his company, (through the severity of the weather) were discharged from further service in erecting works of defence at Black Rock. £3 was given Capt. Thomson for extra work in cold, severe weather, at Black Rock.

The sum of £8 : 15 : 5 was allowed Capt. J. Lester, for ship carriages.

IN SESSION, January 5th, 1776.

(The Council the same as on the 22d December, except Jedediah Elderkin and Joshua West, in the places of Samuel Huntington and the Deputy Governor, who were absent.)

It was ordered, that one row galley, lately ordered by the Assembly should be built at Norwich, one at East Haddam, and the building of the other two postponed.

Silas Dean requested, by letter, in behalf of the naval committee at Congress, that Capt. Niles, of the *Spy*, should be sent to carry recruits from New London to Philadelphia for the navy; which was refused by the Governor and Council for the reason, that the *Spy* could not be spared with safety so long at a time.

A letter from Mr. Shaw, informed that Capt. E. Hinman had brought in two tons of powder for the colony, and had landed it at Bedford, near Dartmouth. Mr. Shaw was desired to send the powder to Providence, to the care of Gov. Cook.

The time having expired for which the men of the schooner *Spy* had enlisted; the Governor and Council directed Capt. Niles to enlist 20 men, such as he could confide in, to serve on board said schooner *Spy*, for one year; to pay for able seamen, 48s.; for seamen, 40s. per month.

Col. Mott was appointed to view the works of defence at New London, Groton, and Stonington, erected at those places, and report to the Governor as soon as might be.

IN SESSION, January 9.

The subject of building or purchasing, to be armed for defence, a vessel, under a resolve of the Assembly, was before the Board. It was voted, that such vessel should not be less than 200 tons burden. And Benjamin Huntington and Capt. Seth Harding were appointed to go to Middletown forthwith, and to other towns on the river, and find where such warlike vessel, fit and suitable for the service, could be purchased, and the terms of sale, &c., or where, by whom, and on what terms one could be built at the least expense.

Col. J. Elderkin was appointed to attend to some business at Suffrage and Salisbury, and procure the casting of cannon, &c.

IN SESSION, January 26.

Col. Burrall, (and Nathaniel Buel appointed major in the regiment for Canada) were before the Council, and said Buel refused the appointment of major, because Lieut. Col. Mott was placed above him. Col. Burrall represented to the Board, that Col. Mott lived remote (in

the eastern part of the colony,) distant from the regiment in Litchfield county ; that it caused great uneasiness in that county where the men were raised and to be raised, and would retard the enlisting there, &c. When Lieut. Col. Mott was informed that his appointment was like to impede the enlisting of men for the Canada service, he at once generously resigned, and Nathaniel Buel, of Salisbury, was appointed lieutenant colonel of said regiment, in the place of said Mott.

Letters and resolutions were received from Congress by express, directing the keeping up nine battalions in Canada ; that one regiment should be raised in this colony, and the commissions sent blank, to consist of eight companies.

The Governor and Council gave orders to the pay table, to examine and settle the pay rolls of the officers of the (then) late northern army.

Passed an order for Capt. Harding to go to Saybrook, and assist in forming the plan of the ship to be built.

A proclamation was drafted on the Congress plan, for raising a battalion for Quebec, and passed ; to consist of eight companies, 90 men in each, including officers.

#### IN SESSION, January 29.

Capt. Lester reported his views of the row galleys, at Philadelphia ; and Mr. Winslow of those at Providence, and shewed the plans, &c. The Governor and Council ordered two row galleys to be built, one by said Lester, and one by said Winslow, with 60 feet keel, 18 feet beam, and 5 feet hold, four inches dead rising ; and stipulated to pay them as master builders, \$1 per day. Capt. Lester moved to be allowed for the use of his tools and yard room ; liquor was to be allowed their workmen, as they had been allowed when at work for themselves.

Col. Elderkin reported the condition of the Salisbury furnace, and the works at Colebrook, &c. It was deemed necessary to purchase a lot of wood land, at Salisbury, of 200 acres, which was owned by the wives of Col. Hamlin and the Rev. Mr. Whittlesey ; for which purpose, Elijah Hyde, of Lebanon, was appointed to procure the terms of sale of said land, or the wood on it, separately.

Col. Saltonstall being present, a long discussion took place on the question, how the fortifications at New London and Groton should be made and carried on.

Dr. Robert Usher, of Chatham, was appointed surgeon, &c. for Wadsworth's regiment, in the recruits (then) raised for Cambridge, and Dr. Elias Norton, surgeon's mate ; Dr. Elisha Perkins, appointed surgeon, &c. for Col. Douglass' regiment, and Dr. Thomas Gray, surgeon's mate, and Rev. John Fuller, chaplain of said regiment. Each

officer and soldier was to be allowed 1s. 6d. for each gun and bayonet used in the service, and for the use of each blanket 3s. ; and if either be lost without default of the soldier, the owner to be paid for it, if appraised before used in service. If unable to provide themselves with arms, &c., the towns to supply them.

Capt. Uriah Hayden was employed to build a ship-of-war, with 80 feet keel, 27 feet beam, and 12 feet hold ; to be paid 6s. per day, he keeping himself, and discharge every part of the duty with the greatest fidelity, care, and despatch ; to obey all directions, and consult Capt. Harding. Benj. Williams, of Saybrook, was employed to do all the necessary iron work for the ship-of-war to be built by Capt. Harding, including deck nails, at 20s. per hundred, in a workmanlike manner, and in due season, as fast as they might be wanted, (the colony to find the iron.)

The dead rising for the row galleys, to be built by Lester & Winslow, was afterwards ordered to be about seven inches, instead of four inches.

Mr. Harpin applied to have fortifications erected at Milford, but as no orders had been given by the Assembly, except that they ought to have six cannon, (from New Haven, &c.) The Council negatived the application.

Adonijah Strong, Esq., was appointed to make all necessary preparations, provisions, &c., for the march of the regiment (then) raising under Col. Burrall, for the relief of the continental army, in Canada, as far as Albany, by the request of Gen. Washington, made to the Governor—and keep his account and vouchers.

#### IN SESSION, February 1.

Congress requested that a ton of powder should be sent to Canada. The colony having at that time but a small quantity of powder on hand ; the Governor and Council ordered to be sent 728 pounds to the army in Canada, to be forwarded by the Governor.

It became necessary that the bounty, wages, and pay for blankets, &c., provisions for the march of the battalion (then) raising to reinforce the northern army, &c., under the proclamation of the Governor, of the 27th of January, 1776, by a resolve of Congress, should be paid. Congress had ordered \$12,500 to be placed in the hands of the delegates of this colony, to be forwarded with all expedition for the use of said battalion ; but in case said money failed to arrive in season, it was ordered that the committee of pay table should draw on the Treasurer of the colony for the sum. It was farther ordered, that said sum should be put in the hands of Wm. Lawrence, Esq., of Hartford ; and

that as soon as necessary, he should repair to Canaan, or elsewhere, and pay off each officer and soldier of said battalion the sums due them, before marching ; for which service said Lawrence was ordered to be paid \$26 67 per month, and his expenses.

Jesse Root, Esq., was added to the committee of prisoners of war, sent to this colony. Said committee of prisoners, were ordered to make out a clear and full account of the charge and expense that had been incurred for the support of all prisoners in the colony, from the time of their arrival into the colony, to the 1st of February, 1776, and transmit the same to the Governor, to be forwarded to Congress for payment.

Upon the request of commissaries Fitch and Squire, for directions and orders for money necessary to make provision for the march and support of the men raised to aid Gen. Lee, in his expedition to New York, &c. ; an order of £500 for each, was drawn by the pay table on the Treasurer of the colony in favor of said commissaries, to be by them improved in the most careful and frugal manner ; to make the necessary provisions for that purpose, and keep exact accounts, with vouchers, and transmit the same to the Governor, and by him to be laid before Gen. Washington for reimbursement.

Capt. Isaac Sears was appointed to purchase a suitable quantity and assortment of duck for a ship of 260 tons, then building for the use of the colony, and 7 tons of iron for said ship ; and deliver the iron to Capt. Benj. Williams, and the duck to Capt. Hayden, of Saybrook.

#### IN SESSION, February 2.

Col. Wadsworth asked for direction respecting three prisoners in his care, who thought themselves unjustly detained. It was ordered, that the Governor should give them a permit to return to Gen. Schuyler, at Albany, and at his discretion to suffer them to return to their several homes.

Col. Dyer and Mr. Wales were appointed and instructed to repair to New London and Groton, to examine the ground where fortifications were proposed to be erected and some were begun, and form their best judgment as to the best places where the same could be built to the greatest advantage, and report how many men ought to be employed to do the work at each place ; how soon the works would be undertaken, and under whose direction, &c. ; of the expediency of removing some, and how many of the cannon, the ball, powder, &c., from New London, to the works erected or to be erected on Groton Hill ; whether any company at New London should be discharged ; of the safety of the colony's powder and military stores remaining in a

magazine near the water in New London, and how much ought to be removed, and where it would be best to deposit it. And report to the Governor and Council as soon as practicable.

Mr. Bushnell, by request of the Governor and Council appeared before them, and gave an account of his machine for blowing up ships, &c. ; which he explained. After he retired, the Governor and Council voted that they were under obligations of secrecy respecting the machine, and that the Deputy Governor should reward Mr. Bushnell for his trouble and expenses for attending, and inform him that the Governor and Council fully approved of his plan, and would like to have him proceed, and make every necessary preparation and experiment about it, with expectation of proper public notice and reward.

The Governor and Council had been authorized by the Assembly to supply the batteries at Groton, Stonington, New Haven, &c. ; to effect this was extremely difficult, except they should be cast in the furnace of Mr. Smith, in Salisbury. It was therefore determined to improve said furnace to cast the cannons and cannon balls of proper sizes; and coal, ore, and all necessary implements for the purpose were ordered to be immediately procured. Col. Elderkin was appointed to go immediately to Salisbury, and give the proper orders and directions; make provisions, and prepare every necessary for carrying the same into full operation; and improve and use the wood on 50 acres of land there owned by Messrs. Hamlin and Whittlesey, &c., or so much as should be wanted.

The Governor and Council were informed that the treasury of the colony was exhausted, in the support of the common cause, and particularly by paying the Connecticut forces, under Gen. Washington, at Boston, to quiet the soldiers and have them re-engage in the same service; and there being many pressing demands upon the treasury for large sums, to fit out the battalions to reinforce the army in Canada, and 3 regiments to recruit Gen. Washington's army, without which funds, &c., said troops could not be sent. It was finally determined, and so ordered, to send any one of the committee of pay table, viz. : either William Pitkin, Thomas Seymour, E. Williams, or Oliver Ellsworth, Esq'rs., forthwith to Gen. Washington, and inform him of the necessity of the colony, and request him to replace the sums of money the committee had advanced from the treasury towards the pay and wages of the forces in his camp.

A letter had been received from Col. Burrall, greatly complaining about Mr. Strong's appointment to supply his regiment to Albany, &c. ; but the Governor and Council adhered to their appointment.

Capt. B. Gallop moved to have the command at Groton. Capt. Troop asked advice as to his company for Canada.

Letters were received from Gen. Washington, Gen. Lee, and Gen. Schuyler, and were laid before the Council.

On Gen. Washington's pressing request for powder, it was ordered, that about three tons (then) lately imported by Mr. Shaw and Capt. Hinman, into Dartmouth, and sent by the Governor's order to Providence, should be forthwith sent from Providence to Gen. Washington. Three thousand pounds of it to be on account, and for Maj. Thomson, a committee of supply for Massachusetts; and the other 3000 pounds on account of this colony, to be paid or replaced as the Council should choose.

Gen. Lee signified to the Council, by letter, that he was not only admitted into New York, but that they had resolved to take strong possession of the city, to prevent the enemy from getting any possession; and desired Col. Ward's regiment, which had been released on the discouraging prospects at first, to be sent back; this regiment was ordered forthwith to return to New York, under the command of Gen. Lee, and their wages to be continued as though they had not returned.

A letter was sent Capt. Swift, of the northern expedition, confirming Murray as lieutenant, in the room of Lieut. Grant, declined.

Letters were sent to Gen. Washington, shewing the directions of the Governor and Council respecting powder; and a copy of Gen. Lee's letter.

Mr. Ellsworth, who had been to Gen. Washington to obtain the money our committee had paid to the soldiers, returned unsuccessful. And being in great want of funds, the Governor and Council considered what could be done; but finally ordered that the committee of pay table should prepare, as soon as possible, the pay rolls of the troops, which they had paid, and repair to the Continental Congress, and apply for the re-payment of said sums.

#### IN SESSION, February 13.

David Lathrop was allowed £11 : 10 : 8, for going as an express to Stamford, to stop the troops, in August, 1775; for going express to New Haven, in October, 1775; for do. express to warn the Assembly, in December, 1775; for do. express to the Lieutenant Governor; for do. to Cambridge.

A letter was sent Governor Cook, of Rhode Island, desiring him to forward our powder to Gen. Washington.

The Governor and Council considered, that the forts at Groton Hill, at Winthrop's Point, and at Mannacock, or Shaw's Point, were of great

importance, not only for the defence of New London, but to render the harbor a place of safety for all friendly shipping of any of the States ; they therefore ordered three companies of men to be raised by voluntary enlistment, consisting of 90 men each, including officers, for the term, and until the 1st of December, 1776, unless sooner dismissed by the Assembly. These were to be employed as laborers in erecting works of defence, as they should be ordered, at the three places mentioned above, and to act as soldiers, if required, in those parts. They were to be exercised by their officers in the use of arms, of cannon, or any other military exercise ; and they were ordered to be stationed at the three places aforesaid, under the command of Capt. Saltonstall, at Winthrop's Point ; under Capt. Mott, at Groton Hill, and under Capt. Ely, at Mannacock, or Shaw's Point. They were liable to be called from their stations to do any duty ; and if any soldier should be deficient in his labor, such deficiency was to be deducted from his wages ; and they were to be ever subject to an act, passed May, 1775, regulating and ordering the troops, &c., and were to receive the same pay as troops in the continental service near Boston. They were to be furnished with good rations and provisions, and one gill of rum per day, when on fatigue, 3s. for the use of blankets, and furnished with arms, by the colony. The Governor and Council directed one barrack to be erected for a single company, on Groton Hill ; that the pest house should be removed and used as a barrack for the company, at Mannacock, if New London charged nothing for such removal.

The Governor and Council ordered 3 stone sledges, 3 hammers, 30 shovels, 30 spades, 10 iron crow-bars, 20 pick-axes, 2 draught chains, 1 long log chain, and 1 cart, with 2 pair of oxen, to be purchased to use on the works aforesaid ; and said troops to be put in the care of the commanding officer. Col. Saltonstall was appointed to provide timber and necessary materials at Winthrop's Point ; Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq. to do the same duty at Groton Hill ; and Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. to do the same for the works at Mannacock.

IN SESSION, February 16.

Gen. Washington sent a pressing and urgent request by Col. Gay, to the Governor, for more powder. The Governor and Council voted to send him 2 tons of the 4 tons (then lately) imported into New London by Mr. Shaw, in the Macaroni, to be replaced by Gen. Washington.

£100 was voted Mr. Lestef, builder of a row galley, to aid him in his work.

£150 was ordered to be paid to David Trumbull, towards his charges for repairing guns sent from Crown Point.



£460 was ordered to be drawn on the pay table out of the continental money sent for the purpose of paying advance wages, bounty, &c., of Capt. Throop's company, destined to Canada.

Letters were received from the authority, &c., of Fairfield, from Col's. Silliman and Burr, setting forth their exposed situation, and necessity of defence, &c. ; and requested cannon, balls, and powder, and at least 25 men, &c. The Governor and Council ordered 25 able bodied men to be raised, by voluntary enlistment, under a lieutenant and 2 sargeants, to be employed in erecting works of defence, as the authority, &c., of said town should direct, and for watching &c., as should be necessary ; and to continue until the 1st of November, 1776, (unless sooner discharged,) and to receive the same pay and wages as the army near Boston ; and allowed 8d. per day for their provision and support during said term.

Voted, that on sending to Gen. Washington the 2 tons of powder, a letter should be written to him, informing him that 4 tons of powder were desired to be replaced by him out of that which he expected to receive from Philadelphia ; to lodge 1 ton at Fairfield, 1 ton at New Haven, and 2 tons at Middletown.

General Washington wrote to the Governor and Council urgently for a supply of fire arms. The Governor and Council ordered 30 stands of arms, fitted out from the gun barrels sent from Crown Point, and to be sent to Gen. Washington.

It was ordered, that Lemuel Bryant, of Middleborough, Mass., a founder by profession, and David Carver, Zebulon White, and David Oldman, from the same State, who were moulders by trade, should be employed at Salisbury ; and that Bryant should procure if possible, four moulds for shot.

#### IN SESSION, February 17.

Sheriff Williams represented to the Governor and Council the great difficulty of managing the prisoners at Hartford ; and moved to have an addition made to the committee of prisoners, as four of the committee were in the army, and on other business. B. Payne, Esq. and Capt. J. Wadsworth, were added to the committee.

Voted an order on the pay table of £9 : 13 : 5 for Mr. Torry, for going with a wagon and the Indian chiefs on the 14th of January, 1776, to Cambridge ; 6s. to Daniel Throop, for going to Windham with him ; and £2 : 7 : 9 to Capt. Hyde, for three journeys to New Haven concerning Salisbury furnace, for the colony ; also £2 : 5 : 2 to Jude Alden, for a horse twice for John Walker, the Congress post.

Edward Mott was appointed captain of the company to be raised and stationed at Groton fort, and commandant of said fort. Dr. John

Ely, of Lyme, was appointed captain of the company to be stationed at Mannacock fort. Samuel Mott and Josiah Waters were appointed engineers, to superintend the building of works of defence and forts at New London and Groton.

IN SESSION, February 23.

Another letter was received from Gen. Washington, complaining of his deficiency of powder.

Maj. Smith, of Stonington, urged an addition to be made to his men in Stonington, for the defence of the town and harbor. The Governor and Council ordered said company of 40 men to be augmented to 80 men, by voluntary enlistment, and to be continued in service until the 1st of December (then) next, unless sooner discharged ; and to be stationed at or near the fortification at Stonington. Nathan Palmer, Jr., was appointed 1st lieutenant ; John Belcher, 2d lieutenant, and Clement Miner, ensign, of the company above mentioned, under captain or Maj. Oliver Smith, who was authorized to enlist said men with all speed. Nathaniel Miner, Esq., was appointed commissary to provide supplies for the company at said fort. The provisions to be procured according to the regulations on that subject near Boston.

Simeon Davis, who was authorized by Gov. Cook, of Rhode Island, to go to the foreign West Indies, after a cargo of powder ; asked leave of the Governor and Council of this colony, to purchase certain articles in this colony, to carry with him. The Council advised the Governor to permit him to purchase and ship 2,000 pounds of cheese ; 2,000 pounds of lard ; 60 barrels of pork, and 30 barrels of beef.

Col. Saltonstall was appointed captain of the company to be stationed at Winthrop's Point, to be raised by enlistment ; and Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., was appointed commissary to provide for the company, to be stationed at Groton Hill. Capt. Deshon was appointed a commissary for the two companies, to be stationed at Winthrop's Point, and at Mannacock, in New London.

Seth Harding was appointed captain, of the brig-of-war Defence. Jehiel Tinker was appointed captain, of the row galley, then building at East Haddam.

IN SESSION, February 24.

(The Governor, E. Dyer, J. Huntington, and Nathaniel Wales, Esq'rs., were all of the Council that were present.)

The Governor and Council appointed Ebenezer Bartram, of Fairfield, 1st lieutenant ; James Hopkins, of Middletown, 2d lieutenant, and John McCleave, master of the brig Defence.

Martin Kirtland was appointed 1st lieutenant, and David Platt, 2d lieutenant, of the company to be stationed at Mannacock.

Oliver Coit was appointed 1st lieutenant ; Wm. Latham, 2d lieutenant, and William Whiting, ensign, of the company to be stationed at Groton fort.

IN SESSION, February 27.

Adriel Ely was appointed ensign, in the company under Capt. John Ely.

IN SESSION, February 28.

It was voted, that Nathaniel Green & Co., of Rhode Island, might purchase in this colony, three cargoes of produce, (under the direction of the Governor,) to be transported to the West Indies, to purchase war-like stores, in pursuance of a contract made between the said Green & Co., and the committee of secrecy of the Continental Congress, for the benefit of the united colonies. One cargo to be shipped in a brig at Norwich, owned in Rhode Island ; the other two cargoes to be shipped in vessels owned in this colony.

Capt. Ephraim Bill was ordered to Saybrook, to inspect the colony ship-of-war, at Capt. Hayden's yard, aid and urge the work in the best and most speedy manner. And the builders, riggers, blacksmiths, sail makers, &c., were directed to consult Capt. Bill, in their several branches of work.

It was voted, that the Governor and Council should take up the matter of the taking of Ticonderoga, &c., and adopt some measures to represent the same to Congress, that those to whom rewards were due for service, should receive it ; and that those who had received money to disburse in that service should be called to account. N. B. One Thomas Lusk, who was a captain at St. John's, was to be remembered for a reward.

Col. Saltonstall, Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., and Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq'rs., were directed to provide teams and tools for the use of the fortifications at New London and Groton.

The Governor was requested to write to the northward for as many gun barrels as could be obtained, to be repaired.

IN SESSION, March 5.

£150 was voted to be paid to Capt. Uriah Hayden.

Col. Sears was ordered to send 3 tons of iron to Capt. B. Williams, or Capt. Hayden, at Saybrook.

An order was given J. Fitch, Esq., to furnish provisions for the brig Defence, for a cruise of nine weeks.

IN SESSION, March 14.

John McCleave, of New Haven, was appointed 2d lieutenant of the brig Defence, instead of Lieut. Hopkins.

Capt. Joseph Thomson was appointed as a lieutenant, to enlist 30 men, to finish the work at Black Rock, in New Haven, and to serve as troops under him at said works, or wherever they should be ordered in the colony, until farther orders; said Thomson to appoint two sergeants to assist him in said service.

The Treasurer of the colony doubted the propriety of receiving continental bills in payment of colony taxes; but the Governor and Council considered it necessary to support the union of the colonies in the free circulation and credit of continental bills; and ordered that they should be received in all payments; and ordered the Treasurer, so to advertise in the newspapers. Voted unanimously.

Capt. Edward Mott was ordered to repair with his company to his station at Groton.

E. Dyer and William Williams, Esq's., were a committee to repair to the Congress, in Philadelphia, and apply for a remittance of continental bills due to Connecticut; to inform the Congress of the situation of the two regiments sent to New York, and take directions concerning them; to ask the loan of cannon from New York; and also request the colonels of the two Connecticut regiments to remain there until further orders; to confer with the Connecticut delegates, &c., relative to the state of the united colonies.

J. Huntington and B. Huntington were appointed to take advice as to the mode of rigging the row galley then building by Capt. Lester, and order accordingly.

IN SESSION, March 18.

A special session of the Governor and Council was called, upon receiving advices from Gen. Washington, with information that the British troops were withdrawing from Boston, as he supposed bound for New York, entreating the Governor and Council to send 2,000 men from the frontiers of Connecticut, forthwith to New York, until he could march his army there.

Samuel Bryant was, from the necessity of the case, allowed as cannon founder, \$2 per day; and Zebulon White as moulder, was allowed 8s. per day, if they succeeded at Salisbury, but if they failed of success, they were to have their board only. Col. J. Porter was appointed chief provider and overseer of the men and furnace, at Salisbury.

A letter was received from Gen. Washington, by the Governor, dated the 14th of March, 1776, which informed him that the enemy had embarked their troops, and were making a shameful retreat from Boston, and probably were destined to New York,—a place of infinite importance to the British and ourselves; also shewing the advantage of a priority of possession of the place, &c. The Governor and Council unanimously resolved that the present was a very important crisis, and might determine the fate of America: Therefore the Council advised the Governor to give immediate orders to the colonels, or commanding officers of the 4th, 9th, 16th, 2d, 7th, 10th, and 23d regiments of militia, forthwith to assemble their respective regiments, in whole or part as they should judge proper, and unless a suitable proportion should freely and forthwith voluntarily, (as was hoped they would) offer themselves, that they should immediately detach from the 4th regiment, 360 men; from the 9th regiment, 360 men; from the 16th regiment, 180 men, inclusive of officers, to be formed into a regiment of ten companies of 90 men each, including officers, under the command of Col. G. S. Silliman, Lieut. Col. John Mead, and Maj. John Chandler, under such company officers in the militia, or such as had lately been in service, as the field officers in the regiments from which they should be drafted, should appoint. Also from the 2d regiment, 270 men; from the 7th regiment, 360 men; from the 10th regiment, 180 men, and from the 23d regiment, 90 men, including officers, or near that number, but not to exceed it; and formed into a regiment as aforesaid, under the command of Col. M. Talcott, Lieut. Col. Jabez Thomson, and Maj. Sylvanus Graves; and when formed, forthwith to march, by land or water, to New York, and place themselves under the commander-in-chief there, and assist in securing and holding New York, until Gen. Washington should arrive with his army from Boston, and be dismissed by him; and to be entitled to the same wages, &c., as the other New England troops in service were. J. Fitch, Esq., and Capt. S. Squire were appointed to make proper provision for the march and transportation of the troops ordered to New York.

IN SESSION, March 19.

(Mr. Wales being sick with the gout, not present.)

Mr. Babcock, of New Haven, moved for liberty to erect a powder mill in behalf of Jeremiah Atwater, J. Doolittle, David Austin, and himself immediately, for manufacturing gun powder, at New Haven.

Mr. Lane, of Killingly, was detached with letters as to raising said troops.

Mr. Waters, an engineer, urged to be excused from the service, apprehending that Col. Mott and himself should disagree ; which was not granted, but was advised to go directly and assist, in the best manner he could, in erecting said fortifications.

IN SESSION, March 22.

A letter was received from Col. Talcott, which shewed his insuperable difficulties in procuring guns, and want of money to march his troops to New York. It was voted, that Mr. Hosmer should furnish Col. Talcott for his regiment, such number of guns and bayonets, (which belonged to the colony,) as should be found indispensably necessary for his regiment ; and Col. Fitch was ordered, (as there was no money in the treasury,) to provide for the march, &c., and advance or borrow money, if necessary, to march the troops.

Sims Edgerton, gaol keeper, in Norwich, was allowed for keeping Dr. Church, from the 24th of November, to the 22d of March, £30 : 4. Seth Miner, for building a yard and pickets about said gaol to secure Dr. Church, £19 : 13 : 10. The sheriff of New London county was directed not to suffer Dr. Church to go out of a close prison but once in a week, and then only with the sheriff in person.

E. Dyer and William Williams, Esq'srs., were empowered to solicit the convention of New York, or in their absence the Council of Safety of that colony, for the loan of such a number and such size of cannon as they could spare ; to urge the necessity of the measure, and if they succeeded, to forward them, and report to the Governor and Council. Also to consult with the commander-in-chief at New York on the necessity that the two Connecticut regiments under Col's. Waterbury and Ward, should continue in service ; also that the two militia regiments (then lately) ordered there, should remain to see the colonels and consult them, and to order them, if needed, to continue in service until advice could be received from the Continental Congress, &c., and report to the Governor and Council.

E. Dyer and William Williams, Esq'srs., were appointed to repair to Philadelphia, and apply to the Continental Congress for a remittance of continental bills for this colony, and forward the same, if obtained, to the Treasurer of the colony, and to urge upon Congress the necessity and expediency of such a supply ; to give information of the state and number of Connecticut battalions in continental service, and particularly of those (then) lately sent to New York ; also to shew the number and circumstances of these troops, and ask directions respecting the prisoners of all denominations in this colony, and report to the Governor and Council.

The same committee were authorized and directed to confer with our delegates in Congress, and others, respecting the state of the united colonies, on all things needful for our defence and safety ; on the subject and manner of treating the commissioners sent from Great Britain ; and inform what they find necessary for the safety and security of New York. &c., and make report to the Governor and Council.

E. Dyer and William Williams, Esq's., were ordered to purchase in New York or Philadelphia, a sufficient quantity of rigging for the colony ship then building at Saybrook, or sufficient hemp for the same, and forward, if in hemp, to James Tilley, at New London ; but if in rigging, to Capt. U. Hayden, at Saybrook ; and pay for the same out of the money they might receive at Philadelphia. Also to pay Col. Sears for sundries which he purchased for the colony, &c.

David Trumbull was ordered, as soon as possible, to send all the colony arms in his hands to Mr. J. Huntington, in Norwich, to be by him forwarded to Capt. John Ely, who was stationed at New London ; and Col. Williams to deliver five arms in his hands.

Col. Huntington was directed to procure four hand carts for the works at New London.

John Mills was appointed a lieutenant of the troops for defence at the fortifications, at Fairfield.

Samuel Smedley was appointed lieutenant of marines on board the brig Defence, of this colony.

The guard of 30 men, at New Haven, were augmented to 50 men ; and Joseph Thomson appointed captain, with the liberty of one lieutenant for said company ; the lieutenant to be appointed by Col's. Dyer and Williams on their way to Philadelphia, (the next week).

Voted, that the guns, barrels, and gun-locks, imported into New Haven, by Col. Sears, should be purchased for the colony, if suitable, and at a reasonable price. Col's. Dyer and Williams going that way, were desired to enquire and purchase them if they thought advisable.

#### IN SESSION, March 23.

Capt. Theophilus Stanton, of Stonington, was appointed captain of the row galley (then) building at Norwich.

It was voted, that the men enlisted, stationed on the sea coast of the colony, through the (then) ensuing year, who found their own arms and accoutrements, by having them appraised, should be allowed 3s. for the use of each gun, and if lost or damaged by inevitable Providence in the service, should be paid such loss or damage.

The Governor, was desired by the Council, to direct the committee of the lead mine at Middletown, to forward one ton of lead to Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, of New London, for the use of the colony.



Elijah Backus, Esq., was ordered to be employed as soon as possible, to manufacture two ship anchors, of 1,200 weight each, for the colony.

Voted, that the row galley, then building at New Haven, should be called the Whiting.

IN SESSION, (at Norwich,) March 27.

The Governor and Council ordered Mr. James Tilley to purchase what rope yarns he could of Mr. Evan Malbone, and what yarns might be wanted to furnish the colony ship with cordage for rigging, and manufacture the same at the cheapest rate possible.

IN SESSION, April 1.

The guard of 15 men, at Lyme, was increased to 30 men, including officers, under Lieut. Lee Lay, with three sargeants, to be posted at different places on the coast, by direction of the Lieutenant Governor.

The company under Col. Gurdon Saltonstall, at New London, was augmented to 90 men, by enlistment.

It was ordered, that two companies of 90 men each, (officers included) should be raised or drafted, to go to New London harbor; one of which was ordered to be raised out of the 3d regiment, the other out of the 8th regiment of militia, with a captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign to each company, observing the ranks they sustained in the militia.

The colonels and commanding officers of the 5th, 1st, 11th, 12th, 19th, 21st, and 22d regiments in the colony, were directed forthwith, to draft one-fourth of their men in their respective regiments, (exclusive of those who were enlisted into the continental service for the then current year,) and see them perfectly equipped with arms, &c. 2 pounds of balls for each, fit for his gun, 6 flints, and hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice, to any invaded place. And that the colonels or commanding officers of the 3d, 8th, and 20th regiments should detach one-third of their men, (exclusive as aforesaid,) and see them equipped and in readiness, in the same manner as aforesaid, and for the same purpose. That the company to be drafted out of the 3d regiment, and the one drafted from the 8th regiment, should be immediately employed at the fortifications at New London. The pay, wages, &c., were to be the same as continental troops in the army.

IN SESSION, April 2.

An order was drawn on the pay table, of £350, in favor of U. Hayden, to aid him in building the colony ship, at Saybrook.



Also an order in favor of Capt. Ephraim Bill, for £350, and another of £200, to enable him to complete the building and rigging of the colony ship, at Saybrook.

Capt. Richard Dickinson, of Saybrook, was ordered to deliver the several articles in his hands that belonged to the brig Minerva, (then lately) commanded by Capt. G. Hall, to Capt. Ephraim Bill, and take his receipt therefor.

Capt. Seth Harding, of the brig Defence, was complained of to the Governor and Council for his intemperance. The Governor and Council found no cause of removal.

James Tilley was directed to purchase 2 tons of flax for cordage, for the colony ships.

An order of £500 was drawn in favor of Col. Joshua Porter, of Salisbury, to carry on the furnace.

The selectmen in the towns in the county of New London, on the east side of Connecticut river, and the selectmen in Windham county, and of East Haddam and Colchester, were ordered to collect the salt petre that had been or might be manufactured in their several towns, (by an act of the Assembly,) and deliver the same to Col. Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Jr. Esq.

Capt. John McCleave was appointed captain of the row galley, Whiting, and was ordered to take the charge of her ; and Israel Bishop was appointed lieutenant of the row galley, Whiting.

An order was drawn in favor of Job Winslow, for £300, to build a row galley at East Haddam.

An order was drawn for £200, in favor of Capt. J. Lester, for building the row galley at Norwich.

Capt. Josiah Burnham, of Lyme, was appointed master of the brig Defence, under the command of Capt. Harding.

#### IN SESSION, April 10.

An order was given by the Governor and Council, on Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to deliver to Capt. S. Harding, 8 of the swivel guns, and 1,500 pounds of gun powder, and 400 swivel shot, in part of what said Shaw had provided for the colony. The order was delivered to Capt. Bartram.

Ebenezer Bartram was commissioned a lieutenant of the brig Defence, the 3d March, 1776 ; Samuel Smedley, 2d lieutenant of said brig Defence ; Joseph Squire was commissioned as lieutenant of marines of the brig Defence, dated 10th of April, 1776.

It was voted, that Capt. Harding should proceed up the sound with the brig Defence, as far as Stamford, if need be, to enlist men for said

brig, and take in some shot in New Haven, and return with all convenient speed to New London.

£200 was voted to be paid Capt. Harding for the use of the brig Defence.

An order on the pay table was given, of £250, in favor of Capt. Edward Mott, for the pay and rations of his company.

An order was delivered Capt. Bartram.

An order of £250, in favor of Capt. John Ely, was given to pay the men in his company.

The men to be enlisted in the row galley, Whiting, were to be held in service until the 1st day of December, 1776.

An order for the sum of £700 was drawn on the pay table, in favor of William Greenough, and the rest of the committee, for fitting out the brig Defence, and building the Whiting.

An order of £400 was drawn on the pay table, in favor of Col. J. Fitch, as commissary, to furnish provisions for the brig Defence.

An order in favor of Daniel Lyman, of £9, was given for boarding Capt. Harding.

Voted, that Capt. James Rice, of New Haven, should be joined with Capt. J. Sears, William Greenough, and Michael Todd, for fitting out the brig Defence, and building the Whiting.

An order was given Nathaniel Miner, Esq., for £150, as commissary to the troops at the fort at Long Point, in Stonington; the order was delivered to Nathaniel Gallop.

Capt. Hezekiah Bissell and Jonathan Trumbull, Jr., were appointed to go to New London and consult with Commodore Hopkins, respecting the measures to be taken in disposing of the continental prisoners in his custody. Also to apply to him for some cannon, of different sizes, to mount on the forts at New London and Groton; and consult with the commanding officers and engineers in those forts as to the number and sizes of the cannon wanted. Also for cannon suitable and sufficient for three row galleys.

The committee to take care of prisoners at Salisbury, were permitted, at their discretion, to remove the prisoners in Salisbury to any other place in Litchfield county.

#### IN SESSION, April 15.

Mess'rs. Doraison, Gowrridge & Co. were permitted by the Governor and Council to purchase a vessel capable of carrying 40 horses, and load the same with horses and stores for them, 15 barrels of pork, 30 barrels of flour, 40 barrels of beef, 40 firkins of hog's lard, and the residue of the cargo in lumber, staves, heading, and hoops, and carry

the same to Cape Francois. And to bring for return cargo into this colony as soon as possible, every kind of military and naval stores, molasses, sugar, sulphur, blankets, linen, and any kind of coarse cloths.

An order was drawn in favor of Capt. Niles, of £400, for the use of the schooner Spy. Nathaniel Backus and B. Huntington were appointed to liquidate the accounts of the schooner Spy.

Capt. Harding, of the armed brig Defence, of this colony, was ordered forthwith to enlist as many men as he could, at New London, to finish his complement of 120 men. Capt. Harding was further ordered, on the request of Admiral Hopkins, to join the American fleet, under his command, and proceed with him on a short cruise against the British, and obey his orders, the same as others of the continental fleet, during the cruise ; subject, however, to the orders of the Assembly or Governor and Council.

Also upon the request of Admiral Hopkins, the Governor and Council ordered Robert Niles, captain of the armed schooner Spy, to join the American fleet, under his command, on a short cruise against our enemies, and obey the orders of the admiral during said cruise ; subject at all times to the orders of the Assembly or Governor and Council.

The Governor and Council directed to furnish Capt. Grennel, Thaddeus Burr, Esq., Capt. Samuel Broom, and Maj. David Dimon, of Fairfield, with 500 pounds of gun powder, to send forth an armed vessel against the enemies of America ; said powder to be replaced, or paid for by them in cash in a reasonable time, at the election of the General Assembly or Governor and Council.

Col. Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Esq., were directed to employ persons to procure 400 pounds of black lead, at the lead mines at or near Union, for the use of the cannon foundry, at Salisbury.

David Brooks, of Haddam, was appointed lieutenant of the row galley, under the command of Capt. Tinker.

Col. J. Elderkin and N. Wales, Jr., Esq., were appointed a committee to take care of the continental prisoners who had been brought into this colony by Admiral Hopkins ; and ordered them to be kept in Windham county gaol ; and to order and direct said prisoners in the most prudent manner, until further orders from Congress, the General Assembly, or Governor and Council.

Each row galley in the colony, was ordered to be furnished with 20 lances and poles, and 20 hatchets, by those persons appointed to furnish said galleys.

Col. Elderkin and N. Wales, Jr., were directed to take charge of, and provide for Gov. Brown, and Messrs. Irving and Babbage, brought in as prisoners from New Providence, and to treat them with that

humanity and kindness which were shown to other continental prisoners of their rank.

Prosper Wetmore, Esq., sheriff of New London county, was directed forthwith, to send to the town of Windham, all the prisoners committed to him, by order of Capt. Bissell and Jonathan Trumbull, and deliver them within the gaol at Windham, to the Sheriff of that county ; who was ordered to keep them in safe custody, in said gaol, until further orders.

IN SESSION, April 22.

An order was given to Col. Samuel Abbott, of £2 : 8, for purchasing guns for the troops in continental service.

Benjamin Huntington received an order of £29 : 17 : 3, New York currency, for duck which he purchased for the colony.

The Council desired the Governor to write to Isaac Sears, to meet the drafts of Capt. E. Bill, for building and furnishing the colony ship for service.

Allowed an account of Edmund Badger, of £1 : 12 : 6 lawful money, for a journey to Providence.

An order of £400 in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., was given for the erection of fortifications at Groton.

Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., was appointed to contract with Jonathan Chester, of Groton, for the engineers to survey as much of his land as should be wanted for the fort at Groton, &c.

Prosper Wetmore, Esq., sheriff, was directed forthwith, to transport Thomas Russell, David Arnott, Wm. Cook, and Wm. Willson, continental prisoners in his custody, to Windham, and deliver them to the keeper of the gaol there, for him to keep safely until further orders. Ordered, that Col. J. Elderkin and N. Wales, Jr., should take care and provide for four continental prisoners, then in the custody of P. Wetmore, Esq., sheriff, who had been ordered to Windham gaol, by the Governor and Council.

An order in favor of Capt. Deshon, for the support of the troops at New London, was given.

IN SESSION, April 29.

E. Dyer, J. Elderkin, N. Wales, Samuel Gray, and Constant Southworth, Esq's., were appointed by the Governor and Council, to take care of, oversee, and direct the prisoners of war from on board Commodore Hopkins' fleet, who were confined in prison at Windham ; at their discretion to take the parole of any officers there, and suffer them to be at large ; to dispose of the men at labor, and on their refusal, or

ill conduct, to imprison them, and to deal with them at their discretion, according to the orders of the Governor and Council.

£35 : 7 : 5 was allowed to Simeon Gray, for entertaining the Governor and Council from their first meeting, and for services as an express.

Mr. Miner, the commissary for the company at Stonington, moved for a further sum of money ; and the sum of £250 was allowed him, to provide for said company.

A sum was allowed William Lax, of Norwich, for iron and labor, in building carriages for cannon.

Mr. Alden was allowed 13s. 4d. for entertaining Col. Dyer and Col. Elderkin, several times, when attending the Council, &c.

Adam Babcock, of New Haven, was permitted to purchase of Elderkin & Wales, 200 pounds of gun powder, for his privateer then fitting out. And Col. Fitch was authorized, if needed, to lend Mr. Babcock some powder out of the colony stores, to be restored from Elderkin & Wales' powder manufactory.

£400 was allowed Capt. James Rice, of New Haven, for his expenses in fitting the colony brig, and building the row galley Whiting, and for expenses in the colony service.

Zadock Brewster was appointed lieutenant of the row galley, under the command of Capt. Theophilus Stanton. Capt. Stanton was directed to select four cannon at New London, for the row galley under his command, and to see them properly bored and fitted for service.

#### IN SESSION, May 6.

The Governor received intelligence from the committee of the Assembly of Massachusetts, that a large army of foreign troops, *hired* by the ministry of Great Britain, to lay waste and destroy this country, were in fact on their passage to execute their bloody orders, and in all probability were near our coast, and might be daily expected, which rendered it necessary that immediate preparation should be made for defence. Therefore the Governor and Council resolved, that the men that had been (then lately) ordered to be enlisted or detached out of the 1st regiment, and other regiments east of Connecticut river, should be forthwith furnished, and completely equipped, armed, &c., and be fitted for an immediate march on any emergency. And the commanding officers of said regiments were required, without any delay, to direct the commanding officers appointed to command said companies of said minute men, forthwith to assemble their men, and carefully examine their equipments, and see that they were forthwith furnished ;

and if arms and balls could not be otherwise obtained, they were to be furnished out of the town stocks, as far as practicable ; and to impress arms, if necessary, of such householders, &c., as would be the least able or likely to use such arms. And each non-commissioned officer and soldier who should be equipped with every requisite, to the acceptance of his captain, was entitled to one dollar, and in proportion for the value of such articles as they should furnish themselves with ; and all such officers and soldiers were to be allowed a reward for the use of their arms, ammunition, blankets, &c., if called into actual service, and for the time necessarily spent in meeting together for exercise, &c., at the rate of wages, &c., of the continental army ; and if called into actual service, to be paid from the day of their march, as the troops in the army were paid. And it was provided, that if the guns, &c., impressed, should be lost, the owners should be paid for them the value of said guns, &c. And the captains of each company were to see that the arms and ammunition of their companies were deposited in some central place of each company, and that it be a place of rendezvous for the company when called into service ; and make return of the rolls of each company, with all their doings, forthwith to the Governor.

IN SESSION, May 11.

The wood on a 50 acre lot, in Salisbury, of Col. Newton's, purchased for making coal for the furnace, to be improved for casting cannon, was appraised by James Landon and Hezekiah Fitch, Esq's., at £82 : 10 ; and an order was given to J. Hamlin and Rev. C. Whittlesey for the same.

IN SESSION, May 13.

Adam Babcock was authorized to receive 200 pounds of powder, to be immediately replaced.

IN SESSION, May 14.

An order of £300 was drawn in favor of Nathaniel Shaw, as commissary and provider of teams, timber, &c., for the use of the troops, stationed at New London, to erect forts, &c.

William Griswold was allowed £125 : 12 for the use of the armed vessel Minerva, the last year.

IN SESSION, May 16.

An order of £500 was drawn in favor of Capt. Hayden, on account of service in building the ship of war, at Saybrook.

## IN SESSION, May 22.

An order, (in part payment,) was drawn in favor of James Rice, of New Haven, for fitting the colony brig Defence, and building a row galley, at New Haven.

## IN SESSION, May 27.

An order for £776 : 3 : 6 was allowed in favor of Col. Isaac Sears, for purchasing iron, cordage, &c., for the brig Defence, a row galley, and a ship at Saybrook. Another order was given said Sears of £2 : 4 : 6 for sending expresses with orders of the Governor, and raising two regiments to go to New York with Gen. Lee, in January, 1776.

An order in favor of Samuel Olcott, of Hartford, was given of £72 for 240 gallons of Jamaica spirits, for the use of the laborers at Salisbury furnace.

## IN SESSION, May 28.

An order of £300 was drawn in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, provider for a company stationed at Groton fort. Also an order of £25 to Elderkin & Wales, to pay for gun powder, by them manufactured.

Hezekiah Lane, of Killingworth, was allowed 26s. for sending expresses to Col. M. Talcott and Col. J. Fitch, &c., concerning the raising of two regiments for New York, by the request of Gen. Washington.

The following orders were paid, viz. : one by Seth Harding, (captain of the brig Defence) on Capt. Samuel Squire, in favor of Lieut. Smedley, of said brig, for so much as was necessary to pay the marines the first months pay, received by said Smedley, being £61. Orders also to said Squire, Thaddeus Burr, Edmund Barlow, Hezekiah Sturgis, and Ebenezer Hubbell, small charges for the brig £6 : 7 : 8½.

## IN SESSION, May 30.

All captains of companies and ships or armed vessels, who were pay masters of their companies and hands or crews, were ordered to find sufficient bonds with sureties.

An order of £400 was drawn on the pay table in favor of Col. Saltonstall, captain of a company stationed at New London, to pay said company, (without orders, £500.)

Orders were given to the overseer of the furnace at Salisbury, respecting the size of the swivels to be cast, viz. : to one and a half inch bore, or one pound shot.

IN SESSION, May 31.

(Titus Hosmer, Richard Law, and William Hillhouse, were added to the Council, and present.)

It was moved, that measures should be taken to man and fit the three row galleys. The captains of said galleys were notified to appear before the Governor and Council, to receive their orders as to manning, officering, and fitting out said galleys ; and inform the Governor and Council how much money would enable them to pursue their business ; and give their bonds, with sureties, as pay masters of their several vessels.

Oliver Welles, of West Hartford, presented his account for seventeen days with a wagon, to transport the baggage of Capt. Bigelow's company of artillery, in Col. Burrall's regiment, and expenses. Allowed £9 : 14 : 6.

The row galley, commanded by Capt. Stanton, built at Norwich, was named "the Shark." Capt. Tinker's row galley, at East Haddam, was called "the Crane."

IN SESSION, June 6.

Capt. John Ely had an order of £154 ; Capt Ely and Samuel She-ther, also of £30.

Capt. McCleave and Tinker, of the Whiting and Crane, were before the Governor and Council ; and it was ordered, that the three galleys should be furnished and manned with 50 men each, including officers. It was voted, that there should be 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 master, 1 gunner, 1 mate, 1 steward, 2 sargeants of marines, 2 corporals of marines, 1 boatswain, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, 1 cook, 1 carpenter's mate, 1 surgeon or mate.

IN SESSION, June 7.

Wages of the officers of the row galleys, viz : captain £7 per, month ; lieutenant, £5 ; 2d lieutenant, £5 ; master, £5 ; gunner, £4 : 10 ; gunner's mate, £3 : 4 ; boatswain, £3 ; clerks, £3 : 12 ; steward, £3, &c. Wages of officers per month, £128 : 16. The officers and marines to receive 1 months advance wages on enlistment. £129 : 12 was advanced to the captains of said galleys, to pay said advanced wages to each galley. Capt. Stanton was directed to proceed, without delay, on board his galley, and carry such stores as Capt. Bill should ship to Saybrook, for the ship at Hayden's yard, and return immediately to enlist his men, and fit his galley.

An order of £200 was voted for Nathaniel Shaw, on Capt. Harding's account.



An order of £200 to Ephraim Bill, towards building the ship at Saybrook.

An order of £500 to Capt. Deshon, as commissary of a company at New London.

IN SESSION, June 19.

An order of £400, given Capt. U. Hayden towards building the ship.

£700 was voted to be paid James Tilley, for rigging, &c., purchased by him for the use of the colony.

Ebenezer Peck was appointed 2d lieutenant, and as lieutenant of marines under Capt. McCleave, for the galley Whiting ; William Plymate appointed master of said galley ; Amos Stanton 2d lieutenant, and as lieutenant of marines of the galley Shark, at Norwich ; William Wilber master of said Shark ; 6s. to be allowed the marines on board the vessels and galleys, for finding themselves a gun and cartouch box.

Four of the colony's cannon, in the custody of Col. Fitch, at New Haven, taken from the Minerva, and a proportion of shot, and about 12 cannister shot, were ordered to be delivered to Capt. McCleave, for the use of the galley Whiting, and 25 pounds of powder of Col. Fitch. And that the remainder of the colony cannon, at New Haven, should be placed at Black Rock, in the care of Capt. Thomson ; and the 2 without carriages to be mounted. Also directed said Thomson to build a cheap barrack near Black Rock, for the company there ; to do the labor with his soldiers, the expense of which was ordered not to exceed £25.

£74 : 10 : 8, allowed Capt. Thomson towards expenses in building the fort at Black Rock. Also an order in his favor of £200, for his company. Also an order for James Rice, of £200, for services about the galley, &c.

IN SESSION, June 20.

Six tons of 9 pound ball were ordered to be cast at the furnace, in Salisbury ; two and a half tons of 1 and 1½ pound shot, sorted to the swivels ; and the pig iron cast there, to remain on hand.

Capt. Tinker of the galley Crane, was ordered to proceed directly to New London.

Col. Sears was allowed £1,298 : 10 : 8, lawful money, to close his whole account.

An order to Col. J. Fitch, to balance his account, for articles, &c., for the brig Defence, £141 : 5 : 11.

IN SESSION, June 26.

Lieut. Col. Johnson, appeared before the Governor and Council, for

directions. Lieut. Col. Danielson appeared, to resign his appointment. James Stedman appointed captain instead of Ripley, resigned.

Capt. Tinker, of the Crane, was ordered to receive provisions, &c., of Capt. Dickinson, at Saybrook, taken from the brig Minerva, to supply his galley with bread, &c., and Capt. Bill to deliver the same to Capt. Tinker. Mr. Shaw was directed to deliver to Capt. Tinker two of the continental 9 pound cannon, at New London, for his row galley. Calvin Ely was appointed master, and Elias Lay, 2d lieutenant of said galley. The drummer's and fifer's wages to be the same as in the land service. All the common powder made at Elderkin & Wales' mill was ordered, forthwith, to be sent to Col. J. Huntington.

IN SESSION, June 28.

An order was given for 200 pounds of powder, on Col. Pitkin.

IN SESSION, July 2.

The price of powder manufactured in Connecticut was established at 5s. 4d. per pound. Maj. Griswold and Capt. Marsh, who were a committee for 12 towns in the Coos country, were present, and urged the Governor and Council for powder, and stated their apprehensions of an attack from Canada. The Governor and Council allowed them to purchase of Elderkin & Wales, 800 pounds, at 5s. 4d. per pound, for cash or good security on short payment. Also to receive at the furnace, at Middletown, 1000 pounds of lead, at 6d. per pound.

Samuel Dunn, an agent for the town of Blanford, was allowed to purchase at Col. Pitkin's mill, 67 pounds of powder, at 5s. 4d. per pound.

The price of lead was established at 6d. per pound.

Capt. J. Lester was paid £861 : 16 : 6, for building the row galley Shark, being his whole account.

An order of £50 was drawn in favor of Capt. Lester, advance pay, for him and 25 carpenters under him, employed to go to Crown Point, at the request of Gen. Schuyler, to build batteaux, (to be refunded by the general government.)

It was voted, that a quantity of lead owned by Jonathan Kilbourn, Esq., of Colchester, and used by him on the water wheel of his saw mill, should not be taken from him, for public use, until actually wanted; and then only by the selectmen of Colchester, without further orders.

500 pounds of gun powder were ordered for the town of Fairfield, to be delivered by N. Shaw at New London.

It was voted that the owners of the privateer sloop Broome, might

receive of N. Shaw, Jr., 500 pounds (mostly) of cannon powder, at 5s. 4d. per pound.

Lieut. Col. S. Mott was appointed colonel of the the 1st regiment, then raising for the northern service, in the place of Col. Douglass, resigned.

Oliver Smith was appointed lieutenant colonel of the regiment at New London, instead of Col. Mott, promoted. And Capt. John Ely was appointed major of said regiment.

Maj. Giles Russell, of Col. Sheldon's regiment, was appointed lieutenant colonel of Col. Sage's regiment, instead of Lieut. Col. Danielson.

Capt. Waterman Cleft was appointed major of Col. Sheldon's regiment, instead of Maj. Russell, promoted.

Edward Mott was appointed major of Col. Gay's regiment, in the place of Maj. Gallup.

A letter was received by the Governor and Council from General Washington, dated June 28, 1776, which stated that he had been advised, that a fleet of 130 sail, left Halifax the 9th. ult., bound for New York; and that Gen. Howe had already arrived at the Hook; and pressing in the most earnest manner, that not one moment's time should be lost in sending the militia of this colony to New York, &c. Other letters had been received by the Governor and Council from the President of the Continental Congress, which urged the same movements, in strong and pressing terms. At this critical time, it was found by the Governor and Council that the several battalions ordered by the last General Assembly, to be raised out of the militia, for the relief of the army at New York, by inevitable difficulties were not, and it was feared could not be ready so as to arrive at New York in season for the expected attack of the enemy; and believing that should that be the case, the event might prove fatal to the liberties of America, that the soldiery of this country had so long and severely struggled to support and defend; and feeling the critical situation, resolved that no efforts on their part could be too great, and that nothing should be unattempted which might tend to strengthen and serve a cause on which the *all* of America depended. Therefore the Governor and Council resolved, that the three regiments of light horse, on the west side of Connecticut river, should forthwith, march to New York, well equipped for the assistance of the army there, and place themselves under the commander-in-chief in that department, and remain there until the battalions ordered by the General Assembly for that service should arrive, and no longer than the general should judge necessary. And to encourage said troops in their immediate and ready exertion, the Gov.

ernor and Council assured them that they might expect such reasonable pay and wages, as the Continental Congress, or the General Assembly, in their justice should allow; assuring them further, that they need not fear but that the same would be just and satisfactory to them. And it was further resolved, that the sum of £1,000 should be advanced out of the public treasury, and placed in the hands of Lieut. Col. Seymour, to assist said troops in their march, and be properly distributed for that purpose, and accounted for on the settlement of their pay rolls. It was further resolved, that Lieut. Col. Thomas Seymour, (chief officer of said light horse, in the absence of Col. Silliman,) was ordered to transmit his orders to the several majors of said regiments, and other officers, and to use his utmost efforts in conjunction with them, to hasten the preparation and march of said troops, to lead and conduct them under their proper officers in said service.

IN SESSION, July 3.

Letters of marque, &c., granted for Capt. Thorp, part owner of the privateer Broome.

An order for the balance of E. Ledyard and P. Avery's account, for building the fort at Groton, £265 : 7 : 9.

By a request of Capt. George Elliot, of Killingworth, 150 pounds of powder was delivered to the selectmen of said town, by N. Shaw, at 5s. 4d. per pound.

On application of Lieut. John Mills, commander of the men stationed at Black Rock fort, in Fairfield, for an account of billeting, premium for guns, &c., an order was given for £200.

Oliver Coit was appointed captain of a company at New London, in the place of Edward Mott; William Latham, 1st lieutenant; William Whiting, 2d lieutenant; John James, ensign in said company.

Martin Kirtland was appointed captain of a company at New London, in the room of Capt. Ely; Daniel Platts, 1st lieutenant; Adriel Ely, 2d lieutenant; Daniel Kirtland, ensign in said company.

Adam Shaply was appointed captain of a company at New London, in place of Capt. Saltonstall, resigned; John Hempsted, Jr., was appointed 1st lieutenant; Richard Chapman, 2d lieutenant; Nathaniel Richards, ensign in said company.

Nathan Palmer was appointed captain of the company stationed at Stonington, in the place of Col. Smith, promoted; John Belcher was appointed 1st lieutenant; Clement Miner, 2d lieutenant; Moses Palmer, 2d, ensign in said company.

William Ledyard was appointed captain of an artillery company, to be raised at Groton and New London, to serve in the forts there.

Nathaniel Saltonstall was appointed captain of another company of matross for said forts.

An account of Col. S. Mott's, of £48:14, for examining harbors, &c., was allowed.

N. Shaw was ordered to deliver to the commanding officer at New London, or to Col. Smith, for the use of the fort at Stonington, 500 pounds of cannon powder.

An order of £330 was given Capt. Samuel Mather, for the pay, allowance, wages, &c., of his company at New London.

The committee of inspection for New London and Groton, were ordered forthwith, to remove the horned cattle, sheep, and swine from Fisher's Island to the main land; but to leave necessary working oxen, cows, sheep, and swine for the use of the families there, at their discretion. That said committee should cause them to be appraised, by judicious, indifferent men, under oath, at their (then) value in money; and to pay out of the colony treasury to the owners of said stock, such appraisal. And said committee were ordered to sell and dispose of said stock, at a reasonable price, in behalf of this colony, and render an account to the Governor as soon as might be. Also to advise Col. Champion, deputy commissary, of the time they should remove said stock, that he might purchase such part of said stock as should be fit for the use of the army.

#### IN SESSION, July 4.

Capt. Herrick was before the Governor and Council, and represented the great fears and distress of the frontier towns, and asked for some relief for said towns; and the Governor and Council concluded upon the propriety of writing to Gen. Washington upon the subject, and move him to have a continental regiment raised there.

Capt. Joseph Marsh, of Hartford, on the frontiers, a member of the New York Congress, came from New York, and was before the Governor and Council, and gave large accounts of the conduct of affairs there.

Capt. Thomas Stanton received two orders, amounting to £229:11:8, for rigging, &c., provisions, &c., for the Shark.

Six barrels of Montserat sulphur ore, in the hands of Thomas Mumford, on account of the General Congress, was ordered to be delivered for the use of Elderkin & Wales' powder mill, and they to account to Congress therefor.

Information was given to the Governor and Council, that vessels loaded with provisions, often passed down Long Island Sound, and went to sea, at that critical time, when the coast was lined with British

ships, and our enemies on board of them in great need of our provisions, and without which, it was supposed they would be unable to carry on their hostile designs against this country. It was also found that many of our provision vessels had already fallen into their hands, by which they had been supported, and the danger of being captured daily increased. It was therefore ordered, that Capt. Niles, of the armed schooner *Spy*, then at New London, or any other armed vessel of the colony, should seize, and bring into port, any such provision vessel that they should discover about said harbor, offing, or sound, bound to sea, and detain the same ; and report the circumstances, cargo, and destination of such vessel, the name of the master, place of abode, owners' names, their license to sail, &c., to the Governor, and take his directions. Provided, that if any vessel so taken, should be found furnished with legal clearances from Congress, such were not to be detained.

Capt. Stanton, of the *Shark*, was permitted to receive a supply of salted beef, pork, flour, &c., of Capt. Deshon, for the men on board the row galley *Shark*. And Capt. Stanton was directed to deal out the same to his men prudently, without spoil or waste, and keep an account of his expenditures, and render his account to the Governor, at the end of two months. Said Stanton was also directed to call and receive of N. Shaw, at New London, all such shot, powder, and military stores, for said galley, as said Shaw should judge necessary. And said Stanton was ordered to make Stonington harbor his general place of rendezvous, until further orders, and cruise from thence through Fisher's Island sound, as far westward as New London harbor, and east and south of Fisher's Island, when he could prudently do so ; and obey such signals as Capt. Harding, of the brig *Defence*, and Capt. Niles, of the *Spy*, should make to him.

Samuel Wheat, of Norwich, was allowed £3 : 18, for carting four guns and one load of carriages to Norwich, for the use of the schooner *Spy*.

IN SESSION, July 5.

Gov. Franklin, of New Jersey, (son of Dr. Franklin,) was brought to Connecticut, on the 4th of July, 1776, taken by a convention of his province, as a virulent enemy of the colonies ; to be confined here, in such manner and place as Congress should direct. He was sent to Gov. Trumbull, with the following resolves, viz. : " Whereas the Convention of New Jersey have declared William Franklin, Esq., a virulent enemy to this country, and a person that may prove dangerous ;

and that the said William Franklin be confined in such place, &c., as the Continental Congress shall direct.

“Resolved, that William Franklin, Esq., be sent under guard to Gov. Trumbull, who is desired to take his parole ; and if Mr. William Franklin refuse to give his parole, that Gov. Trumbull be desired to treat him agreeable to the resolutions of Congress respecting prisoners.”

A letter and resolve were brought before the Council last evening, by Thomas Kenny, Esq., officer of the guard of escort. In the morning, (5th) a parole was prepared, and said Franklin moved by letter, for an alteration in said parole, and for liberty to return to New Jersey, on his parole, which was answered in writing by a refusal. Gov. Franklin, on finding he could not return to New Jersey, moved the Governor and Council, by the said officer, to be permitted to go to Stratford. He was informed he might go to Wallingford. Franklin returned his message, that Gov. Trumbull might do as he pleased with him, &c. Franklin finally consented to go to Wallingford, and signed his parole accordingly.

Job Winslow was allowed the balance of his account for building the galley Crane, being £313 : 6 : 10 ; £700 having been before paid him.

#### IN SESSION, July 6.

Capt. Niles, of the Spy, (being present,) was directed by the Governor and Council, carefully to attend to the duties of his station, and keep a careful watch for any and every hostile ship or vessel which might be hovering about the coast ; to take any that he could, and give every signal and intelligence concerning them in his power ; to prevent all smuggling and clandestine management that should be contrary to the laws and the embargo of the colony, or prohibitions of Congress, and gave him a warrant for the same.

Instructions were given by the Governor and Council to Dr. John Ely, to visit the army at the north, who were infected with the small pox. Two battalions were then raising to reinforce the northern army, but as very few of the people of this colony, had had the small pox, then so prevalent in that army, it greatly impeded the recruiting for that service ; and such as would otherwise have enlisted, fearing that should they enlist, that the disease would immediately seize upon them, and spread among the new troops as fast as they should arrive in camp. It was therefore considered absolutely necessary to remove this impediment to the recruiting service, and save the lives of the army. To do which, they appointed Maj. John Ely, an eminent physician and surgeon, of great experience in that disease, to repair, forthwith,

to the northern army, report himself to the general, &c., and learn the true state of the troops with respect to that infectious disease ; to consult with the general, &c., on the proper methods to cleanse and remove said infection from the army, and prevent its further ravages ; and render his best advice, and do all in his power to contribute to the health of the army ; and report his proceedings to the Governor, and the circumstances of the army, from time to time, until he should return.

The selectmen of Westmoreland, were allowed to receive of Elderkirk & Wales, 200 pounds of powder.

IN SESSION, July 9.

Col. Mott presented his resignation of colonel in a northern regiment.

The pay table were ordered to adjust and pay Capt. Edward Mott's account and pay roll.

Jesse Brown, (the government post rider to the northward,) was allowed £10 towards his expenses.

£60 was allowed Maj. John Ely, in part payment of his company's wages, &c.

On motion of Dr. Ely, Peter Granger, (a French neutral) a good nurse in the small pox, was permitted to accompany Dr. Ely in his northern mission.

Voted, that Capt. N. Saltonstall's companies of artillery, should consist of 40 men each, exclusive of officers, with 1 captain, and 3 lieutenants for each company, with 8 gunners for each, and pay at 44s. per month.

Capt. Niles was allowed 1½ per cent. on his purchases, and payment of his crew of the Spy.

Col. Mott appeared to settle the affair as to his command at the north, who had nearly resigned, but who finally accepted.

IN SESSION, July 10.

Jonathan Chester, of Groton, appeared and claimed pay for his land on which the fort in said town was built, and for special damage ; which was agreed to be appraised by men mutually chosen. It was agreed that Luke Perkins, of Groton, William Witter, of Preston, and William Manwaring, of New London, should appraise said lands taken, and such as should be necessarily wanted for the use of the fort.

Royal Flint, of Windham, was appointed pay master of Col. Ward's regiment.

Capt. Tinker, of the row galley Crane, was directed to take two



3 pounders at the old fort, at New London, for the galley, and to receive eight swivel guns, as soon as they could be obtained ; also ten muskets of Col. Williams ; and receive of N. Shaw, Jr., such powder, ball, &c., and military stores as said Shaw should judge necessary ; and that he should receive of Capt. John Deshon a supply of salted beef and pork, bread, flour, &c., sufficient for the officers, sailors, and marines on board said galley. And said Tinker was ordered to provide all other provisions for them, and to deal it out prudently, without spoil or waste, and such fresh fish as they should take ; rendezvous at New London, and cruise from Stonington to the mouth of Connecticut river, and southward as far as Montauk Point, with precaution and prudence. That his officers, men, &c., in the sea service, should be under the rules, &c., of the continental fleet, until further rules should be adopted.

Capt. McCleave, of the galley Whiting, was directed to receive his supply of salt provisions, &c., from Capt. Deshon, for his officers, &c., on board his galley ; and other necessary provisions, to be provided by himself, &c., and render his account at the close of two months ; and receive his military stores of N. Shaw, Jr., at said Shaw's discretion ; to have 8 swivels as soon as they could be obtained ; to receive 5 muskets of Capt. Mott, or the officer of his late company, and rendezvous at New London, and cruise from Stonington to New Haven, and south as far as Montauk Point ; and be under the same rules as the galley Crane.

An order in favor of Capt. Niles was drawn, of £477 : 6 : 9, for the balance of the schooner Spy's account, to the 8th day of June, and £200 more for the use of the Spy from that time forward.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., of New London, was appointed agent for this colony, for naval supplies, and taking care of the sick seamen sent on shore.

The purchasers of pork, by order of the Assembly, were ordered, as soon as possible, to inform the Governor the quantity obtained, the price paid, and where stored.

Orders were drawn in favor of McCleave and Tinker, for £100 each, to purchase necessaries for their crews.

#### IN SESSION, July 11.

Twenty-five guns repaired by D. Trumbull, sent from Crown Point, were ordered delivered to Capt. Huntington, for the use of his company.

William Latham, Jr., was appointed captain-lieutenant of Capt. Ledyard's company of artillery ; John Leeds, lieutenant, and Achus Sheffield, 2d lieutenant, of said company. For Capt. Saltonstall's

company, Nathaniel Coit, Jr. was appointed to be captain-lieutenant of said company ; Daniel Starr, lieutenant, and Samuel Champlin, Jr., 2d lieutenant.

The Declaration of Independence, by Congress, was received in a letter to Governor Trumbull, from Col. Trumbull.

Col. O. Wolcott, who by reason of ill health, had returned home from Congress ; it was the opinion of the Governor and Council, that it was of great importance that the colony should be fully represented there, and all attend ; and by a letter from Col. Wolcott, desiring that another member should attend in his place ; the Governor and Council appointed William Williams, Esq., as soon as might be, to repair to and attend said Congress as a delegate. (Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Williams having discoursed and partly agreed which of them should attend.)

William Coit was appointed captain of the ship, then building at Saybrook ; Timothy Parker, 1st lieutenant, and David Hawley, 2d lieutenant. Capt. Coit was in town, and called in before the Governor and Council ; and the Governor gave him advice, instruction, and admonition as to his conduct, &c.

#### IN SESSION, July 12.

A letter was received from Col. Pitkin, expressing his apprehensions of the danger of his powder mills being destroyed by enemies, as such an act had been threatened, &c. The Governor and Council ordered guards to be allowed at said mills ; and also at Elderkin & Wales' powder mills ; and allowed the owners of said mills 4s. for each night they should keep such guard, until further orders.

Letters were received, by express, from Congress, dated July 6, 1776, containing information of the passing of the Declaration of Independence, and a copy of it, and required the same to be duly published.

Letters were also before the Council, from Gen. Washington, of the 7th and 9th of July, 1776, with the advice, that Lord Howe, with 1,500 men, were on their passage. Also concerning the colony regiment of horse, approving the measure, yet expressing his opinion of the difficulty of keeping horses, &c.

The publishing of the Declaration of Independence was largely discussed, and postponed.

Dr. Usher, of the New London regiment, was allowed to purchase medicines for said regiment of Dr. Lathrop, or Dr. Dyer, to the amount of £10.

#### IN SESSION, July 15.

Capt. Harding arrived from Boston, and gave an account of his cruise, and taking the ships and brigs, &c., and his reasons for leaving

the port without orders ; and was justified by the Governor and Council for so leaving :—Asked directions about cleaning, graving, and refitting ; also about his men, who were probably infected with the small pox. He was directed to do what Mr. Shaw should advise.

The post from Hartford, and Brown, the Albany post, arrived with many letters from Gen. Schuyler, Mr. Trumbull, &c.

A representation was made by the committee of inspection, in Simsbury, of the dangerous situation of New Gate prison ; that many tory prisoners had been committed ; that people were alarmed for their own safety ; that the keeper of it was uneasy in his situation, and applied for a guard about said prison. The Governor and Council allowed a guard of two men each night, and more if necessary, to watch and guard the prison, and all its avenues, to prevent the escape of the prisoners, and to prevent all access to them by suspicious persons.

#### IN SESSION, July 16.

Brown & Sons and Gardner, of Fisher's Island, applied for compensation for the stock taken from said Island. It was doubted whether the persons above, or Mr. Winthrop, were entitled to receive the money. Therefore a letter was wrote to a committee at New London, on the subject.

Mr. Mygatt, the captain of a provision vessel, had been stopped by Capt. Niles, agreeable to orders. He moved the Governor and Council to proceed on his voyage, which was considered unsafe, the coast being so infested with the enemy.

Engineer Waters moved for extra wages for the carpenters and masons at the fort at New London,—1s. 6d. per day was allowed extra to each master mason, master carpenter, and master blower ; and 9d. per day for other workmen.

Engineer Waters was allowed for services from November 23, 1775, to 15th of July, 1776, £65 : 19 : 3.

An order on the lead mine committee, at Middletown, in favor of Joseph Webb, for 1,000 pounds of lead, was given, to be replaced by the selectmen of Wethersfield, and delivered to Capt. Wadsworth, for the army at Cambridge.

An order of £ 80 was given to William Lax, for building carriages used in the armed vessels, for cannon.

Gen. Washington applied to the Governor and Council for the row galleys of the colony to assist in the defence of New York, then attacked by the British. The Governor and Council ordered, that the row galleys Whiting and Crane, should proceed immediately to New York, and be placed under the command of Gen. Washington.

Governor Franklin applied to be removed from Wallingford to Middletown, which was granted, on the same parole. And the prisoners in Hartford and Wethersfield were forbid going to Middletown, without a special permit from the Governor and committee of prisoners.

A committee was appointed to purchase all the tow cloth, and other suitable cloth for tents, that could be procured in the colony, for our troops, for tents and clothing, by a request of Congress.

Capt. Deshon moved for £2,000, to procure provisions for the regiment at New London. An order of £1,500 was granted to purchase provisions, and a quantity of molasses, to be distributed for the soldiers.

Gen. Schuyler earnestly requested, that his army should be furnished with 1,000 felling axes ; and an order was drawn of £150 to purchase said axes for Gen. Schuyler ; also an order in favor of Titus Hosmer, of £150, was granted for the same purpose.

The selectmen of Lebanon stated, that they could not obtain guns for Capt. Clark's company, of said town. It was voted, that the Governor should deliver them 15 of the guns and bayonets in his hands, which had been fitted up from old barrels, received from Crown Point.

IN SESSION, July 17.

The pay master of Col. Ward's regiment was directed to pay, as a premium, to each soldier who should provide himself with a gun, 6s. ; and 4s. for each bayonet, belt, cartouch box, and knapsack.

Andrew Huntington, Joshua Elderkin, Chauncey Whittlesey, Jonathan Fitch, Samuel Squire, and Lynd Lord, were appointed a committee, under a previous vote, to purchase all the tow cloth in their respective counties, and cause the same to be made into tents, in the most expeditious manner, for the use of the troops of the colony, and report to the Governor.

It was directed, (under a recommendation of Congress,) to purchase a quantity of homemade cloth, (or other cloth if that could not be obtained,) of a brown color, for 3,000 coats and 3,000 waistcoats, and as many blankets as could be obtained in the colony ; 3,000 felt hats, check flannel or linen for 6,000 shirts, 6,000 pairs of shoes, to be collected and deposited in the proper stores in the several counties, proportioned to each county.

Timothy Larrabee was appointed pay master to Col. Mott's regiment.

It was ordered, that the soldiers in Col. Mott's regiment should supply themselves with four bullets each ; and Col. Pitkin to deliver Col. Mott one pound of powder for every eight men in his regiment, and the same quantity to Col. Swift's regiment.

Col. Porter informed the Governor and Council that eighteen 9 pound

and other cannon were cast at Salisbury furnace, (which were much wanted.) Col. Jonathan Pettibone was appointed a committee to procure teams and carriages to transport twenty 9 pound cannon from Salisbury to Hartford, and deliver them to Capt. W. Tyley, at Hartford, with all convenient speed. 800 pounds of powder were ordered from Col. Pitkin's powder mill, to be sent to Col. Porter, for the use of the furnace at Salisbury.

IN SESSION, July 18.

Mr. Root, in the name of the committee of prisoners and the county court, moved to have a yard erected around the gaol, at Hartford, to secure the prisoners, which had been resolved by the county court, that such a yard was absolutely necessary to be forthwith built. The Governor and Council directed the county court in said county immediately to erect such yard, with pickets or plank, in the best and most prudent manner; one half of which expense was directed to be paid out of the public treasury of the colony, and the other half by the county of Hartford.

The regiment raised in this colony for the continental service, under Col. Andrew Ward, were now ready to march, and orders had been given them by the Governor for their march to Boston; but intelligence was received, that Lord Howe, with a large body of troops had joined Gen. Howe, at New York, and the whole force of the enemy appeared ready to fall upon the city of New York, and the places adjacent; and at the same time the small pox was greatly prevailing in and about Boston, and would probably spread in Col. Ward's regiment, and disenable them for service, if they marched there. Therefore the Governor and Council directed Col. Ward to suspend his march to Boston, until orders could be obtained from Congress, or Gen. Washington.

The subject of publishing the Declaration of Independence, was again taken up by the Governor and Council, and referred to the General Assembly, at their next stated session.

Whereas tories were in the habit of wandering from place to place, to spy out the state of the colonies, and give intelligence to the British, formed confederacies, &c.; to prevent which, the Governor and Council resolved, that no person unknown or suspected, whether in the character of gentlemen, expresses, travellers, or beggars, should be permitted to travel, or pass from town to town in the colony, unless he should produce a pass from some Congress, Committee of Safety or inspection, some magistrate, general or field officer of the army, stating therein, from whence he came, to what place bound, that he was

friendly to the States, unless he was well known in the colony. It was made the duty of all officers, civil and military, selectmen, committees of inspection, sheriffs, constables, grand jurors, and tithingmen in the colony, to require all persons travelling as aforesaid, to produce such certificate, and to stop and examine them, &c. And it was recommended in the large towns in the colony, to keep proper watches and guards in the night season, and to apprehend any such persons, that might travel by night, and practice mischief against the States.

IN SESSION, July 19.

£14 was voted for Elderkin & Wales to build a powder magazine, in a dry sidehill near their powder mills, made of rough stone, and to belong to the colony.

Mr. Brooks, of Stratford, made a pressing application for a supply of powder. An order on Doolittle & Co's. powder mill, at New Haven, for 800 pounds, at 5s. 4d. per pound, was given.

After repeated applications from Gen. Washington for the galley Shark to be sent to New York; the Governor and Council ordered that the row galley Shark, under the command of Capt. Stanton, should immediately repair to Gen. Washington, at New York, and be placed under the directions of Gen. Washington.

Capt. Harding, of the brig Defence, was ordered immediately to cause the brig to be fitted and repaired, and cruise in Long Island sound, in proper places, for the best advantage of the colony.

The Governor was requested to give commissions to such officers as were returned, in such companies of men not by law obliged to do duty in the militia, as should associate in companies, and stand ready to serve the public under the Captain General.

IN SESSION, July 23.

Daniel Dee was appointed 2d lieutenant of artillery, under Capt. Saltonstall, at New London.

The Council approved of the Governor's selling to James Phelps, of Spencertown, New York, 50 pounds of powder, at 5s. 4d. per pound.

An order of £200 was drawn in favor of J. Elderkin, to purchase tents and clothing for the continental army.

IN SESSION, July 27.

The felling axes, requested by Gen. Schuyler, were ordered to be sent without delay, by trusty wagoners, to Skeensborough, for the use of the army.

On application of Mr. Jay, from the committee of convention of the State of New York, twenty cannon were loaned, viz. : ten 12 pounders,

and ten 6 pounders, at the furnace in Salisbury, to the State of New York, with a suitable proportion of shot for said cannon, and replaced or accounted for by said State; with iron trucks or carriage wheels for said cannon, and delivered to Mr. Jay, or his order.

IN SESSION, July 30.

Prosper Wetmore, sheriff of New London county, was allowed £12 : 2 : 10 for supporting, guarding, &c., twenty-two continental prisoners, taken by Commodore Hopkins, and transporting them with their baggage to Windham gaol; £11 : 4 for transporting Dr. Church, (by order of Congress) from Norwich to Boston, and from thence to Watertown, and £9 : 5 for his trouble and expense with said Church when a prisoner in his care, from November, 1775, until the 27th of May, 1776, and for waiting upon him abroad, by order of Congress, being in all £32 : 11 : 10 lawful money.

An order of £1,000 was drawn in favor of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., for the use of the colony.

The Governor and Council directed Col. Huntington to proceed to New London, with all possible despatch, for the colony, in conjunction with his son, to purchase such necessary clothing for the troops as they could get upon the most reasonable terms. Also to treat with the owner of the Bermudian sloop brought into that port by the continental fleet, for the purchase thereof; and report his terms, &c., and lay an injunction against said sloop's leaving said port until further orders. Also to purchase all the swivels and the shot belonging to said guns; one third of the cannon and shot, and 100 stand of arms, and all the lead shot brought into said port, by a French sloop.

IN SESSION, July 31.

William Nichols, of Hartford, was appointed pay master of Col. Heman Swift's regiment.

Nehemiah Hubbard, Jr., of Middletown, was appointed pay master of Col. Charles Burrall's regiment.

Samuel Champlin, Jr., of New London, was appointed 3d lieutenant on board the colony ship, under Capt. Coit.

Azariah Whittlesey, of Saybrook, was appointed master of the colony ship, under Capt. Coit.

An order of £250 was drawn in favor of Capt. Coit, to enlist his men, and first months pay, and lodge his bond as pay master.

Mr. Law was desired, by the Governor and Council, to compile a code of laws for the naval service of the colony, in conformity to the laws of the naval service of the united colonies, as near as might be, and lay the same before the Governor and Council.



Capt. Coit was ordered to sail the colony ship to New London as soon as possible.

Mr. N. Shaw, Jr., was directed to provide supplies, arms, hammocks, &c. &c., and every needful thing to furnish said ship fit for sea, as soon as it lay in his power.

Eliphalet Roberts, of Hartford, was appointed captain of marines on board said colony ship.

John Prentice, 2d, of New London, was appointed 1st lieutenant of marines of said ship.

Six midshipmen were allowed said ship.

Capt. Coit's men on board said ship, were enlisted to be held in service until the 1st day of May, 1777, unless sooner discharged.

Gurdon Saltonstall was allowed his expenses, in building the fort at New London, being £176 : 12 : 10.

J. Elderkin, Esq., was directed to purchase what ravens duck he could in Providence, for the colony's use.

IN SESSION, August 1.

David Trumbull was directed to deliver Lieut. Wales, 12 guns and bayonets and belts, for the use of Capt. Stedman's company.

Letters were sent to all the towns, urging them to forward the enlistments.

Letters from the convention of New York, were sent by Mr. De-Payster, respecting the prisoners sent from New York to Litchfield gaol, were read; and thereupon ordered, that the Mayor of New York should be brought to Hartford, and there confined. Gilbert Forbes and William Forbes were directed to be confined in Litchfield gaol, and the other ten to be taken to Norwich gaol, and warrants sent to the respective gaolers.

£600 was ordered paid to Andrew Huntington, for the purchase of clothing, tents, &c., for the continental army.

IN SESSION, August 2.

An order was given Col. Pettibone on Col. J. Porter, to deliver to him for the use of the colony, 40 tons of pig iron, and 1 or 2 ton of 2 pound shot, to be by him transported to Connecticut river.

The Governor and Council had been informed of the great necessity of the northern army for an immediate supply of clothing, at Crown Point and Ticonderoga. Therefore ordered, that such part of the articles of clothing as had been procured in the State, under the order of Congress, should be forwarded to the army, without waiting for particular orders; and the Governor was desired to order the same forwarded to the army.



Capt. Deshon and N. Shaw, Jr. were instructed to purchase the New Providence sloop, owned by Charles Walker, (which lay at New London,) for this colony, and have it fitted as an armed vessel, at the cheapest rate in their power, and execute the contract on the part of the colony, and procure writings of conveyance to the State to be perfected; and that Capt. Harding should fit up said sloop as an armed brigantine, with the greatest despatch; and use the masts, sails, rigging, guns, &c., and the furniture of the brig Defence, under his command, for that purpose; and employ the men of said Defence in fitting said sloop. And Mr. Shaw was directed to furnish Capt. Harding with all things necessary for said purpose.

Eliphalet Dyer and Richard Law, Esq's., were directed to repair immediately to New York, and confer with Gen. Washington, on measures to be pursued by this State, for the defence and security of this and the other States, and to frustrate the designs of the enemy.

An order of £200, in favor of Dr. J. Elderkin, to purchase tents and clothing for the continental army, was given. The Governor drew an order in favor of Chauncey Whittlesey, of £1,000, for the same purpose.

#### IN SESSION, August 9.

An order was drawn for two months billeting, for the forces at Fairfield, under Lieut. John Mills. Liberty was given the selectmen of said Fairfield to take at the furnace, one 12 pounder and one 18 pounder, if to be had, if not, two 12 pounders; also a ton of shot suitable for the cannon in said fort, subject to the order of the Assembly.

#### IN SESSION, August 10.

A number of tory prisoners were sent from Albany, to be confined in the gaol at New London, and none of them to go at liberty without a trusty guard, (and by land only,) not more than a half-mile distance from the gaol.

An order of £10, in favor of Ensign John Fisk, of Col. Elmore's regiment, to support his party of tory prisoners, sent from Albany, to be repaid by said Fisk, or the Albany committee.

#### IN SESSION, August 11.

Isaac Doolittle & Co., of New Haven, were ordered to deliver 1000 pounds of powder to the selectmen of New Haven, as town stock.

The Governor, by advice of his Council, directed the commanding officers of the 1st, 2d, 4th, 6th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 22d and 23d regiments of militia in this State, to march forth-

with to New York, and place themselves under Gen. Washington, until the (then) present exigency should be over.

Twenty shillings was ordered to be paid each militia man, by the pay master, towards wages, before marching for New York.

IN SESSION, August 12.

An order was granted to Jesse Root, of £3,600, as pay master of advance wages of the officers and men of the 2d, 4th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th regiments ordered on duty to New York, by him to be paid to the commanding officer of each regiment, at the rate of 20s. a man. An order of £300 was given to pay the 22d regiment.

Capt. S. Squire, of Fairfield, was ordered to procure for the brig Defence, 40 barrels of pork, 40 barrels of beef, 40 bushels of beans and peas, and 40 bushels of corn.

Capt. Harding, of the brig Defence, was ordered to cruise against the enemy, as soon as the brig should be fitted to sail, for about eight weeks, and use every precaution to cause any prize he might take, to be brought into some port of the United States, and there secured and condemned; and when his cruise should be closed, to return to his place of rendezvous.

An order was given in favor of Capt. John McCall, of the veteran guards of the 20th regiment of militia, ordered to New York, for 20s. advance pay for each soldier in his company, who should march to New York. He was ordered immediately to march and join the 19th regiment, and place himself and company under Gen. Washington.

Oliver Wolcott, Esq. was appointed brigadier general of the militia ordered to march to New York, to reinforce the army under Gen. Washington.

An order of £10 was given to aid Daniel Strong to pay his expenses, with his team with goods and warlike stores for the continental army, in the northern department.

IN SESSION, August 13.

An order of £180 was drawn in favor of Capt. Seth Warner, of Saybrook, to raise a crew of 40 seamen, for naval service on the lakes at the north.

IN SESSION, August 14.

Young Ledyard was appointed a lieutenant of artillery in the company at Groton, under Capt. William Ledyard.

An order of £150 was given in favor of Nathaniel Miner, commissary of the company at Stonington.

## IN SESSION, August 15.

As medicines could not be obtained at the northward for the army, the Governor gave Dr. Thomas Russell, of Col Swift's regiment, a small quantity, and directed Smith & Coit, of Hartford, to furnish him with such medicines as were needful.

An order for Dr. J. Elderkin, of £400, was drawn for him, to purchase tents, &c., for the continental army in the northern department.

An account of 26s. was allowed Edmund Badger, for the hire of a horse, for John Vanaulin, an express from Gen. Washington to Boston.

John Munro and Henry Vanschaik, two of the prisoners sent from Albany into this State; the said Munro for enlisting soldiers for the British army, and being himself an officer; the said Vanschaik, for being a disaffected person, and corresponding with the tories in Connecticut, were sent to East Haddam, under their parole of honor, to continue there, and not depart more than two miles from Connecticut river, if placed within two miles of the same; hold no correspondence, by letter or writing, with the British or tories; do nor say any thing in prejudice of the United States, or their acts or resolves; hold no correspondence with any prisoners of war, &c., on penalty of close confinement.

## IN SESSION, August 16.

£180 was ordered to be paid to Capt. David Hawley, to raise a crew of seamen for the naval service of the United States, on the lakes, for which service he was appointed captain.

The same sum of £180 was paid to Capt. Frederick Chappell, of New Haven, to raise a like crew for the same purpose, to which service he was appointed captain.

An order in favor of Capt. Walter Hyde, of £50, was drawn for the independent company under his command, of 20s. for each man, before marching.

The British had frequent intercourse with the people of Block Island, and there being danger of giving intelligence that might prove dangerous to the liberty of the country; the Governor and Council voted, that after the 20th of August, 1776, no boat from said island should enter any creek, inlet, or harbor, in this State; for a violation of which, such boats should be seized and kept in safe custody, with the persons on board. And the commanding officer of the troops at the different forts, on the sea coast of the State, all the captains and chief officers of any armed vessels in the State service, were required to carry fully into effect the provisions of said resolve.

An order of £2,168 was drawn in favor of Charles Walker, of New Providence, for a large sloop to be used as a ship-of-war.

Capt. Adam Shapley had an order of £63: 8, for the bounty and first months pay of his men. Maj. John Ely had an order of £50.

The sheriff of New London county was directed to suffer the prisoners from the State of New York, confined at Norwich, to take the air one or two days each week for their health, under the sheriff's personal attendance and keeping, and to walk in the jail yard in the day time, at the sheriff's discretion.

IN SESSION, August 17.

An order was drawn in favor of one or two persons, as the Governor approved, to take the charge of an armed vessel or vessels, on the lake, agreeable to a request of Maj. Gen. Schuyler, for £180 lawful money each, to pay the bounty, premium for guns and bayonets, &c. And it was voted to allow the captains and recruiting officers for raising said crews of seamen on the lakes, 8s. lawful money, for each man enlisted, as a compensation.

Henry Billings, of Norwich, was appointed 3d lieutenant of the armed brig Defence, and first prize master on the cruise said brig was then ordered; and his wages to cease on the condemnation of the first prize, or at the end of said cruise.

IN SESSION, August 20.

An order was drawn in favor of Capt. James Chamberlain, for advance wages of 20s. per man for his company ordered to New York.

The Governor was authorized to furnish Capt. McCall and Lieut. Jacob Dewitt, of Norwich, with fire arms to supply their men, out of the colony arms in the hands of David Trumbull.

A company was formed of the men of the horse, under Capt. J. Chamberlain, and reported to the Governor, and approved. James Chamberlain was chosen captain; Noah Chapin, Jr., lieutenant; and Simon Chapman, ensign; which company and officers were established to serve as a foot company of militia in defence of the States.

IN SESSION, August 21.

A lieutenant, 1 sargeant, and 15 men were ordered to be detached from Capt. Thomson's company, at Black Rock, in New Haven, to go to Milford and assist in building a fort at that harbor; with liberty for the selectmen of Milford to take four colony cannon from Salisbury furnace, viz.: three 9 pounders and one 12 pounder, and one ton of shot, to be used in said fort. Isaac Doolittle & Co. were ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Milford, 300 pounds of gun powder, for their use in the fort.

Chatham also had an order for 300 pounds of powder.

Middletown had an order for 500 pounds of powder.

The committee of the lead mine had an order for 300 pounds of powder.

Bela Elderkin, of Windham, was appointed lieutenant of marines, on board the ship-of-war owned by this State.

James Jauney, Esq., of New York, was sent to Connecticut, by order of Gen. Washington, and on his parole to continue in Middletown. He applied to the Governor and Council for liberty to go to Westchester, in the State of New York, and to bring his and his son's families to Middletown; which was granted by the Governor and Council.

#### IN SESSION, August 27.

Doolittle & Atwater had manufactured at this date, 4,100 pounds of powder, at New Haven.

An order of £300 was issued in favor of J. Fitch, of New Haven, to purchase clothing and tents for the northern army; the order was given payable in continental bills, lodged in the treasury by Mr Sherman.

Capt. Michael Melally was appointed 1st lieutenant of the armed ship Oliver Cromwell; John Smith, of East Hartford, was appointed 3d lieutenant of the ship Oliver Cromwell; John Chapman, of New London, was appointed 2d lieutenant of the Oliver Cromwell.

Orders were given to forward camp kettles to the northward, as they were much wanted.

#### IN SESSION, August 28.

An order was drawn in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, of £1,000, commissary of the troops of the fort in Groton, for supplies and buildings there.

An order was given N. Shaw, Jr., of £625 : 4, for money he advanced Capt. Harding, to furnish and fix the brig Defence.

An order of £600 was drawn in favor of Andrew Huntington, for the purchase of tents and clothing for the army at the north, to be paid in continental money.

An order of £500 was given in favor of Joshua Elderkin for the same purpose, payable in like money.

A like order in favor of Samuel Squire, was given for the same purpose, of £500.

The sheriff of New London county was directed to transport all the prisoners from Albany, then in New London gaol, to the town of

Preston, and deliver them to the committee of inspection of said town, there to be kept on their parole, viz. : William Pemberton, Alexander Campbell, Thomas Swords, Samuel Anderson, and Joseph Anderson, to be supported at their own expense. And William Scott, John Scott, Jacob Timmerman, Nicholas Weaver, Ralph Watson, John Duzenberry, Frederick Williams, Henry Wytenhousen, Dugall Campbell, Benjamin Grinman, Owen Conner, William McMullen, Israel Osborn, and Samuel Messenger, to be allowed to labor for their support, under the inspection of the committee of said Preston.

IN SESSION, September 1.

The Governor directed Samuel Squire to send to New York, 200 pounds of salt petre, to Gen. Wolcott.

The commanding officers of the 3d, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 20th, 21st and 25th regiments of militia, were ordered forthwith, to call out their regiments, and see them equipped and marched to New London ; from thence to embark for Long Island, and there land in the most convenient place, to march to the assistance of our army against the troops and mercenaries of the King of Great Britain on that island, or to be stationed at New London, as circumstances might require.

Erastus Wolcott, colonel of the regiment at the forts at New London, Groton, &c., was ordered, without delay, to put his officers and soldiers, stationed at said forts, in readiness to embark for Long Island ; and to see the sound clear, that they might safely pass the same, and forthwith embark with them to Long Island, and there co-operate with our forces on the island, and command them in such manner as to secure and defend the inhabitants ; assist to dispose of the stock with safety, and annoy the enemy as he should be able ; to take with him six field pieces, and direct those who should follow him to bring the other cannons from the forts ; to use prudence in engaging men, and take with him one of the captains, and a suitable number of officers, and 25 matrosses for the service. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., was ordered to supply the troops so ordered to Long Island, with stores of powder and transports, and employ a sloop of Capt. Jabez Perkins for the service. And Capt. Deshon was directed to supply the troops with bread, flour, and other provisions necessary for the troops.

IN SESSION, September 2.

Intelligence arrived by Col. Marsh, from New York, that our troops had withdrawn from the islands near New York, and that they were about to make a stand at some more convenient place. The Governor sent an order to Col. Wolcott not to embark for Long Island until farther orders.

An order was drawn of £300 in favor of Capt. Hayden, towards building the ship Oliver Cromwell.

IN SESSION, September 3.

Jabez Huntington, Richard Law, Jedediah Elderkin, William Hillhouse, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., and B. Huntington were appointed to repair immediately to New London, to observe the situation of our troops, the state of the sound, whether infested with the enemy; and to consider and direct what measures were best, with regard to the inhabitants and stock on Long Island; how to preserve them from the enemy, and determine on the propriety of sending troops to the island; to take care that suitable stores of ammunition, provisions, and every necessary, according to their determination should be made, and give their directions to Col. Wolcott; to give directions concerning the colony vessels, particularly the one Capt. Harding had sailed in, and order, if they saw fit, that she should be fitted for a guard vessel at New London, and on the sound; and report their doings to the Governor.

IN SESSION, September 5.

All the troop of horse in the colony, east of Connecticut river, were ordered forthwith, to march towards New York, as far as Westchester, and there to wait farther orders, to co-operate with the continental troops.

The prisoners at New London, that had been ordered to reside at East Haddam, were permitted to reside at Middletown, upon their parole, and Sherbrook to reside in Wethersfield, upon his parole.

The committee appointed September 3, 1776, to repair to New London, &c., reported, that they found Long Island in the hands of the British, and the people of the island in great distress, and removing themselves and their effects; and advised the committees of inspection of New London and Groton, to pursue the advice, and answer the requisitions of the Congress of New York, with regard to assisting the inhabitants of Long Island to go off with their effects to the main; and advised Col. Wolcott to put as many of his men on board the transports as should be thought sufficient to assist and guard them in their escape from the island. Also advised the armed vessels in the harbor to go as convoys to the transports without delay.

IN SESSION, September 6.

Voted £80 to William Lax, to aid him in making carriages, for cannon in this State.

An order was given to the 3d, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 20th, 21st, 25th and 7th regiments of militia, and to the 2d and 4th regiments of horse,

forthwith, without delay, to call out their regiments, and see them equipped and march towards New York, and rendezvous at or near Westchester, and to remain there until farther orders ; to be ready to co-operate with the continental army, and defeat the designs of the enemy, who appeared to be endeavoring to throw over a force upon the main, to cut off our communication with New York by land and water.

The militia of this State, east of Connecticut river, had been ordered to march to Westchester, unprovided for ; therefore Jonathan Fitch and Samuel Squire were directed to make all necessary provisions for them.

It was ordered, that two companies of the regiment at New London and Groton, under Col. Wolcott, should be detached by Col. E. Wolcott, and marched towards New York, and join themselves to the regiment of militia under Col. Saltonstall ; and Maj. John Ely, of Wolcott's regiment, was ordered to proceed with the two companies, and take command in the regiment under Col. Saltonstall, in his rank. And it was ordered that the vacancy made in Col. Wolcott's regiment should be supplied by men in Col's. Coit's and Saltonstall's regiments of militia, that could not at that time be equipped and armed for immediate service.

A guard of 15 men was ordered stationed at the mouth of Connecticut river, on the east side ; and John Griswold, of Lyme, was appointed the officer of said guard ; and was ordered to proceed immediately to enlist out of the militia, or other able bodied men, with the same wages as other troops of the State, and 9d. per day for billeting.

An order of £44 : 1 : 3 was drawn in favor of Capt. William Tyley, for a cask of Jamaica spirits purchased of Capt. John Chenevard, for the use of the State.

IN SESSION, September 7.

An order was given to William Morgan, Esq., to purchase 200 fat sheep, and drive them to the northern army, and deliver them to the commissary, by order of Gen. Waterbury.

IN SESSION, September 9.

Orders were given to Capt. Zebediah Smith, master of the prize schooner Elizabeth and Hannah, at Newport, taken and sent in by the armed schooner Spy ; to embrace the first fair wind, when the coast should be clear of the British, and proceed with said prize to Norwich, and cause her to be condemned as soon as might be.

One of the committee of pay table was ordered to receive out of the treasury a sufficient sum to pay 20s. to each man ordered to New



York, and to go to New Haven, and there pay to the colonels of each regiment 20s. for each man in his regiment, and by the colonels to be paid over to the men.

Martin Leffingwell was ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Norwich, a chest of arms in his care, left with him by Mr. Lay, of Lyme.

The selectmen of the towns were directed to proceed, on the usual plan, for furnishing the men ordered to march ; and those men who had balls fitted for their own guns, were ordered to use them.

Elderkin & Wales were directed to send one ton of Connecticut powder to Col. J. Fitch, at New Haven.

Two prisoners who were in the custody of Lieut. Col. Livingston, at Saybrook, (if on examination they should be found guilty,) they were ordered to deliver them to the committee of inspection at Saybrook, and by them sent to Colchester, to be kept on parole.

#### IN SESSION, September 10.

The military companies in the 1st and 3d societies in Saybrook, were excused from marching to New York with their regiment, but to remain at home, to assist in erecting the fort.

Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., was appointed brigadier general of the nine regiments of militia of this State, ordered to march to Westchester, in New York.

Oliver Smith was appointed lieutenant colonel of the 8th regiment of militia, for the expedition towards New York, and was ordered to proceed with said regiment towards New York.

The 1st and 2d companies of militia, in New London, were excused from marching with the regiment towards New York, but were permitted to remain at home, to defend the port and harbor of New London.

Dr. Thomas Gray was appointed surgeon's mate of the ship Oliver Cromwell.

An order on the pay table was drawn, of £500, in favor of Ebenezer Backus, major and commander of the 2d and 4th regiments of horse, ordered to march towards New York, to provide for, and support his troops on said expedition.

The pay table were directed to liquidate the accounts of the selectmen of the several towns, incurred in furnishing the militia with guns, &c., for service.

#### IN SESSION, September 12.

The selectmen of New Haven were authorized, at their own expense, to take three 12 pound cannon from Salisbury furnace, for their forts ;

and one ton of assorted shot for the cannon at said forts, there to be used until farther orders.

Mr. Hosmer was directed, as soon as might be, to procure some person to go directly to Simsbury and Salisbury, if necessary, and forward the 6 pound cannons that were ready, to Hartford or Middletown, with shot for the cannon, (and to consult with Mr. Humphrey on the subject,) and procure carriages for them; also to bring the swivels and shot for them, and to have 20 of the swivels, swiveled at Hartford.

IN SESSION, September 18.

Col. Porter was ordered to cast proper wheels and bed for a powder mill for Col. Pitkin, for the powder mill at Hartford.

An order of £220 was given Col. Pitkin for making powder for the State.

Liberty was given to James Church, of Hartford, to export a cargo of the value of £70 to the West Indies, to purchase salt to be brought into this State for the inhabitants.

Col. Samuel Coit, by his age and infirmity, was excused from service in the expedition to New York.

An order of £1,000 was drawn in favor of Jonathan Fitch.

Asahel Case, of Norfolk, had an order for 40 pounds of powder, for the town.

An order of £50 was paid Capt. Elijah Hyde, for advance pay, in part of wages to his company of horse on their march to New York. Also an order was given on Lieut. Col. Livingston, for 8 guns for said company. And an order for 20s. per man was given for said company, to march under Capt. Andrew Lathrop.

A great number of the distressed inhabitants of Long Island, by the advice of the Convention of New York, had fled from the enemy into this State, and many others expected, in a miserable, destitute, and helpless condition, and required the aid of our inhabitants; and as there was no law of the State which applied to a case like theirs:—The Governor and Council resolved, that the committees of inspection in the towns, where such distressed islanders came, were advised to provide all things necessary for them, until the Assembly should sit, in October (then) next, and then lay the same before them for advice.

It was represented to the Governor and Council, that many of the troops from this State, were returning home sick and wounded, and had been exposed to suffer for want of accommodations and refreshments; the Governor and Council resolved, that convenient hospitals should be provided for the accommodation of the troops near New York, who were sick, on furlough, or discharged. And that one or

more such hospitals should be provided in each town, from New Haven to King's Bridge, in the State of New York; and a suitable person employed at each of such hospitals, to see them furnished with provision and refreshments for the sick or wounded soldiers, and properly attended and taken care of. And the selectmen in the towns from New Haven to Greenwich, were empowered in behalf of this State, to provide such hospitals, in their respective towns, and procure persons to provide for and oversee said hospitals; and examine into the state of sick soldiers of this State on the road home, and afford them such assistance as they should judge necessary. Elkanah Tisdale was appointed to provide such hospitals in the State of New York, to King's Bridge, and appoint overseers to furnish them, &c. And an order of £100 was drawn in favor of said Tisdale, to enable him to carry said resolve into execution; and to leave attested copies of said resolve with the selectmen aforesaid; and advise with and ask the assistance of the committees in the State of New York, and of Gen. Washington, in executing said resolve; for which said Tisdale was to be allowed 6s. per day, with his expenses and horse hire.

IN SESSION, September 20.

An order of £31 : 13 : 8, was given in favor of Noadiah Hubbard, of Middletown, for carting clothing to the northern army.

An order of £1,200 was drawn in favor of Chauncey Whittlesey, to enable him to pay for goods purchased for clothing for the continental army, and to continue his purchases for the same purpose.

On the 24th of September, 1776, Col. J. Huntington, Col. Jedediah Elderkin, Titus Hosmer, and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq's., met and assisted the Governor in business of the public.

IN SESSION, September 26.

The same gentlemen aided the Governor in the same business.

An order of £600, lawful money, was drawn for Capt. Coit, of the Oliver Cromwell, for colony use.

Another order in favor of Capt. Ephraim Bill, of £300, lawful money, on account of the ship Oliver Cromwell.

Simeon Tucker, of Rhode Island, had an order for 10 pounds of powder, at 5s. 4d. per pound.

Benjamin Henshaw was allowed £31 : 6 : 10, for carting guns from Salisbury.

Col. J. Porter was allowed £500, for the furnace at Salisbury.

The overseers of the furnace were directed to cast 6 and 4 pounders until farther orders from the Assembly.

It was voted, that John Hudson & Co., from Long Island, should be encouraged, to depend upon purchasing four 4 pound cannon and four swivels, of this State, as soon as they could be cast, and finished, by their paying the customary price.

Also Lyon & Co., of East Haddam, to have two 6 pounders, and eight 4 pound cannon, of this State, for their privateer, as soon as cast, by their paying the usual price.

Also Capt. Jabez Perkins to have two 4 pound cannon as soon as cast, for his privateer, or letter of marque, on the same terms.

IN SESSION, September 27.

The overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, were ordered to deliver the agents for building the continental ship at Chatham, twenty-four 12 pounders, and six 6 or 4 pounders, by their paying at the rate of £3:10 per hundred weight for the 12 pounders, and £4 per hundred for the less cannon.

An order of £30 was given to one of the pay table, to enable him to go to Gen. Washington, with Gov'rs. Brown and Skene, to deliver them to his care, and render his account.

Ten pounds were voted in favor of Lieut. Thomas Bill, to enable him to apprehend deserters from Col. Burrall's regiment, and return them to their duty.

Dr. Joshua Elderkin, of Windham, was directed to provide a sufficient quantity of tow cloth for 140 hammocks, for the ship Oliver Cromwell, and forward such as he had on hand, and purchase 400 yards in the whole, and send it to Capt. Bill for said purpose.

IN SESSION, October 1.

The overseers of the furnace were ordered to cast a suitable proportion of 4 pound shot for the cannon cast there; and to cast for Capt. J. Perkins, of Norwich, about 40 or 50 shot for the two cannon he was to have.

Andrew Huntington was permitted to purchase at the furnace, two 4 pounders, and six swivels, with shot suitable, at the usual prices.

It was recommended to the committee of inspection of Norwich, to proceed, relative to the people, stock, &c. from Long Island, as had been done by the towns on the sea coast, in pursuance of the request of the convention of the State of New York.

Capt. Niles, of the Spy, was ordered to get ready, with all possible despatch, and cruise in the sound, between Montauk Point and Stamford, to watch the movements of the enemy, and give information in the best manner for the security of the navigation belonging to the

United States, and the towns particularly on the sound, and to annoy the enemy, until further orders.

Capt. Deshon had an order of £1,500 to provide for the troops at New London.

Sargeant John Spencer, of Capt. Wells' company, in Col. Wolcott's regiment, with 7 or 8 seamen or marines of the same, were permitted to enlist on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell*; and others enlisted in their room in said regiment.

The great cry and want of the necessary article of salt, threatened to disturb the public peace and safety of the State, rendered it necessary to supply the public and private necessities of the people in the most speedy manner, for the Governor and Council to act upon the subject. Therefore it was ordered, that a suitable number of vessels should be provided, at the public expense, and sent under convoy, to procure a quantity of salt; and Capt. Deshon was appointed to carry the same into effect.

Capt. Deshon's warrant :—" You are hereby authorized and empowered to take up or impress 500 tons of vessels, from about 60 to about 100 tons, good for sailing, and well found, and have them appraised by suitable persons, under oath, for public service; for which this shall be your warrant."

Capt. Deshon was instructed to impress said vessels, and cause the schooner *Hannah* and *Elizabeth*, which had been taken by Capt. Niles, of the *Spy*, of this State, and 500 tons more, as stated in the warrant; and see them all well manned, and supplied with provisions, and suitable cargoes to purchase salt; to sail at his discretion as to time and destination; which vessels were ordered to be protected by an armed ship, for which said Deshon was to advise with the Governor and Council for their orders. Said Deshon was directed to do the whole with the greatest secrecy and despatch.

The Governor was desired to appoint such persons as he should think proper, to be master of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and any other officer wanted on board; also to give orders for medicine on board said ship as should be needed.

Dr. Samuel Lee, of Windham, was appointed surgeon and physician on board the *Oliver Cromwell*.

Dr. Benjamin Dyer was paid £57 : 11 : 10, for drugs for the use of the State.

£171 : 6 : 10½ was allowed Jabez Huntington.

£300 was paid Dr. J. Elderkin, to purchase clothing.

£300 was paid Andrew Huntington, to purchase clothing.

Prosper Wetmore, sheriff, was allowed £8:17, for transporting Bazel Boudenot from Norwich to Worcester, in Massachusetts.

IN SESSION, October 11.

A consultation was had as to an expedition of Col's. Richmond and Livingston to Long Island. The Governor gave the necessary orders, with all possible secrecy, and Mr. Shaw was sent home with orders to forward said expedition as fast as possible.

IN SESSION, October 21.

£400 was drawn to enable Col. Porter to carry on the cannon foundry. - And he was requested to borrow on the credit of the State 40 bushels of salt, for the use of said foundry.

IN SESSION, October 22.

Adam Babcock & Co. were permitted to export to Rhode Island 60 barrels of salt beef for their privateer.

Voted to sell Adam Babcock & Co., two of the cannon and carriages, taken on board the ship Guineaman, and brought in by Capt. Harding, to New London.

Mr. Hosmer was desired to give orders to Mr. Buel, for 40 fire arms, to be delivered to Capt. William Coit, for the ship Oliver Cromwell.

It was voted to appoint an ensign, with orders to enlist 20 men, at 40s. per month, to man the fort at Milford harbor, until farther orders, to serve until the 25th day of December (then) next, unless sooner discharged. Capt. Benjamin Hine was appointed ensign, (with the pay of an ensign.)

IN SESSION, October 24.

£400 was paid James Tilley for cordage.

£200 was paid Capt. Hayden, towards building the Oliver Cromwell.

£75 was paid B. Williams for iron work on the ship Oliver Cromwell.

Levi Young was appointed master of said ship.

Capt. Harding was ordered to sail on a cruise, with the brig Defence, for two months, against the British.

Capt. William Coit, with the ship Oliver Cromwell, was ordered to sail on a cruise, for two months.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., was ordered to supply the ship Oliver Cromwell and brig Defence with stores of every kind, for a cruise of two months.

## IN SESSION, October 26.

Capt. Elizur Goodrich, of Wethersfield, was permitted to export, in the sloop Betsey, (himself master,) 80 barrels of beef, 25 barrels of flour, 15 barrels of pork, 6 oxen, and 60 doz. of poultry, and make his returns in salt.

Capt. Joseph Thompson drew £300 to pay the wages, &c., of his company.

Col. J. Fitch was directed for the future, to supply the troops under Capt. Thompson, in New Haven, with provisions.

£33 : 12 was allowed William Greenough for services.

## IN SESSION, October 30.

Jonathan Curtiss was accepted as a captain ; Timothy Pond, lieutenant ; and Samuel Scovil, ensign of a company in Northbury, in Waterbury, embodied under a late resolve of the General Assembly.

Accepted and established Caleb Jewett, captain ; Robert Stedman, lieutenant ; and Joseph Lord, ensign of a company in Sharon, embodied under said resolve of the General Assembly.

Capt. John McCleave, and his crew of the galley Whiting, were dismissed as of Saturday preceding.

Approved an order of £500, given Samuel Squire ; also an order for John Cotton, at the fort at Saybrook, for £50 was approved.

## IN SESSION, November 4.

Andrew Martin was returned as captain ; Enos Hawley, lieutenant ; and Nathan Chapman, ensign of a company of householders, ready to march and join the regiment in whose limits they dwelt, (in Woodbury.)

Twenty-five tons of pig iron, (State property) was ordered sold to Aaron Elliott, at £7 : 10 per ton, at Salisbury, if it would not interfere with the cannon foundry ; said Elliott engaging to manufacture the same into steel, and dispose of it at a reasonable price in proportion to the cost of the pigs, to the inhabitants of this State, for their own use ; and Col. Porter was directed to deliver the same to said Elliott, and take the pay therefor.

Voted, to supply Samuel Bird, Arthur Jarvis, John Lathrop, and Pierpont Edwards with ten 4 pounders, and twelve swivels.

Voted, to supply Stephen Thorp, Abel Gould, and associates, with twelve 4 pound cannon, eight small swivels, half a ton of round shot, and 100 pounds of grape shot ; and exchange with them 800 pounds of powder at Doolittle's mills, at 5s. 4d. per pound, for well refined salt petre, at the stated price.

Twelve cannon were ordered delivered to Isaac Miles & Co., (4 pounders,) and twelve swivels.

Also, Andrew Rowland and Samuel Broome & Co. eight 3 pounders double fortified, eight swivels, 500 pounds of gun powder, at 5s. 4d., 240 rounds of shot, and 100 pounds of grape shot, of 2 ounces each.

Also, Jonathan Osborn and Farrington & Putnam with four 9 pounders, six 6 pounders, six 3 pounders, and two cohorns.

Also, Luther Stoddard & Co., with four 6 pounders, ten 4 pounders, and twelve swivels.

Also, Messrs. Lyon & Co., with ten swivels, previous to the delivery of any of the foregoing guns.

IN SESSION, November 6.

Capt. John McCleave was allowed £428 : 9 : 5, for billeting and wages of the men on board the galley Whiting.

Col. William Pitkin was ordered to deliver all the State powder in his possession, to John Lawrence, Esq., Treasurer, who was directed to store and guard it in some safe place.

£1,000 was drawn in favor of C. Whittlesey, of Middletown, to purchase clothing for this State, for the use of the troops, &c.

IN SESSION, November 7.

Voted, to enter into partnership with the commissary general for importing 100,000 bushels of salt ; and ordered the writings prepared accordingly.

IN SESSION, November 14.

An order in favor of William Wheeler, of £24 : 10 was drawn for his services and expense, as commissary at the north end of lake George, in 1775, under Col. Benjamin Hinman,\* for 5½ months, at £6, is £34.

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\* Col. Benjamin Hinman was born in the town of Woodbury, in this State, in the year 1720. His ancestors came from England, in the early settlement of this colony. He served against the French in Canada, as early as 1751, under a commission as quarter master of the troop of horse in the 13th regiment, in this colony, under the hand of Roger Wolcott, then Governor of the colony. On the 19th day of April, 1755, he was commissioned, by Gov. Fitch, at Norwalk, a captain of the 6th company of foot, in Col. Elizur Goodrich's regiment, being a part of the forces raised in the colony for the defence and protection of His Majesty's territories from any further encroachments by the French, at Crown Point, and upon lake Iroquois, (called at that time by the French, lake Champlain,) to remove encroachments then made there ; of which forces William Johnson was commander-in-chief. During the French war in Canada, on the 1st of October, 1755, Col. Hinman being stationed near a lake, walked out alone about three-fourths of a mile from his men, and stopped near the lake in the



Lieut. John Beedle was allowed £15:6:5, for his expense of a guard under his command, to bring a number of tories from Stamford to Lebanon.

The committee of inspection of the town of Lebanon, were ordered to take charge of the prisoners sent from Stamford, being persons dangerous to the State.

IN SESSION, November 15.

An order of £1,000 was given to William Coit, captain of the Oliver Cromwell, for the use of said ship.

woods; he heard a noise behind him, and turned briskly around, with his gun at a rest, and found a French soldier within six yards of him; the soldier was as much surprised with his company as was Col. Hinman; at once the soldier cried for quarters, and held out to the colonel the helve of his hatchet, in token of his submission, which Col. Hinman took from him, and marched him into camp, as a prisoner.

On the 30th day of May, 1757, he was commissioned major of said 13th regiment of foot and horse, by John Fitch, Esq., then Governor of the colony. In the year 1758, he was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the 3d regiment of foot, in the forces raised in the colony for invading Canada, to proceed under the supreme command of His Majesty's commander-in-chief in North America; and also a captain in the 2d company in said regiment; which commission was signed by Thomas Fitch, Governor of this colony. On the 31st day of October, 1767, he was commissioned by William Pitkin, Governor of the colony, a lieutenant colonel of the 13th regiment of horse and foot, under and in the eighth year of the reign of Lord George the Third, King of Great Britain, &c.

On the 1st of November, 1771, he was commissioned colonel of the 13th regiment of foot and horse, by J. Trumbull, Governor. Early in the war of the revolution, viz.: on the 1st day of May, 1775, he was appointed colonel of the 4th regiment of enlisted and assembled troops for the defence of the colony; and was ordered, by Gov. Trumbull, on the 20th day of May, 1775, forthwith to march with five companies, to rendezvous at or near Greenwich, in this State; and to send three companies, to take post at Salisbury, under Maj. Elmore, to be in readiness to march with them under such orders as Maj. Elmore should receive from the General Assembly, or the Governor. During the same year he was ordered to Ticonderoga, where he remained in command of a regiment for some time. In the year 1776, he was ordered, with his regiment, to New York; and was at New York at its capture by the British; after which he was stationed at Horse Neck, and other places on the sound, but returned home in ill health, in January, 1777, and did not again join the army. He died at Southbury, on the 22d day of March, 1810, at the ripe old age of 90 years.

NOTE.—There were more commissioned officers, during the war, by the name of Hinman, in Connecticut, than by any other one name, (being 13 in all); of whom originated in the town of Woodbury, 1 colonel; 5 captains; 4 lieutenants; 2 ensigns; and Elisha Hinman, (of New London,) captain of the Alfred, a ship-of-war, and 1 quarter master.

The committee of inspection for the town of Preston, informed the Governor and Council, that the prisoners in said town from the State of New York, were destitute of clothing, and other necessities for the cold season. The Governor and Council permitted Alexander Campbell, William Pemberton, and Thomas Swords, to return to their respective homes, under the care of two of said committee to attend them on their journey and back to Preston, at the expense of said prisoners, under their parole faithfully to return with said committee, unless the authority who sent them to Connecticut, should release them ; and to do or say nothing against the United States. And the said Walter Scott, Samuel S. Gardner, Henry Westenhausen, John Dezenbury, Owen Conner, Benjamin Greenman, and Jacob Timmerman, had liberty, at their own expense, to return to their families to get some sustenance ; on their parole to wait on the authority who sent them, for farther orders, and faithfully to return to Preston within six weeks, unless released by said authority ; and to say or do nothing against the States during the war.

An order of £1,000 was given to Dr. J. Elderkin, to purchase clothing, &c. for the State, and render his account.

An order was given by the Governor, of £2,000, to Capt. Deshon, November 9 ; also one of £2,000, to Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., for public use—(both approved.)

It was represented to the Governor and Council, that John Rapalji, in gaol at Norwich, was destitute of clothing and necessities of support, and desired to return to his family to obtain the same at Long Island. Liberty was given him to visit his family on the island for the purpose aforesaid ; with liberty to remove such of his family to Norwich as he pleased, by giving his parole of honor for his return within six weeks, and not to do or say any thing against the States, or give intelligence or advice concerning the affairs of said States ; and said Rapalji was desired to supply Col. Samuel Selden, Capt. Jonathan Brewster, Lieut. Nathaniel Gove, Sarg't. Roger Coit, Lieut. Jabez Fitch, and such other prisoners of this State as he could, with cash, upon their giving him security for the same. He also had liberty to procure and bring to Judge Jones' with him, others, to Norwich, such supplies of clothing and sustenance as they might want.

Two prisoners who resided at Capt. Elijah Backus', in Norwich, were permitted to return home, at their own expense, to the State of New York, after supplies for the winter, on the terms stated in the other cases ; to return within six weeks, unless suffered to remain at home by the authority who first sent them to Connecticut.

Col. Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq., were directed to

go to New London, and do all in their power to send out the ship *Oliver Cromwell* on a cruise.

The Governor and Council appointed Jedediah Elderkin and N. Wales, Jr., Esq's., to examine into the truth of a report, that Capt. Kennedy, of a ship loaded out from New York, with wheat, bound to France, was manned with captives and prisoners, taken by privateers; and that said Kennedy was of a suspected character, and it was supposed the ship and cargo would, in all probability, fall into the hands of the British. Said committee were to take such depositions, and such other evidence, as they might think material, and report to the Governor and Council.

Mr. Brown, of Providence, was directed to deliver Elderkin & Wales what sulphur they might want, in his care, owned by the country.

Orders were given for a quantity of engrossed cheese, in the hands of Nathan Stedman, contrary to the law against engrossing.

Dr. Samuel Lee was appointed surgeon of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*; and his two students appointed 2d and 3d mates under him, at £3 per month each.

Officers were appointed to supply the places of those who refused to serve in the eight battalions, then raising for the continental line.

#### IN SESSION, November 22.

The general officers from this State, with the colonels of the continental regiments for continental service, were desired to arrange the captains, &c., in due order, and report to the Governor.

#### IN SESSION, November 26.

William Cone was appointed captain; Nathaniel Sparrow, lieutenant; and Gideon Ackley, ensign of a company of householders, not in the militia roll, in the town of East Haddam.

#### IN SESSION, November 28.

Mr. Erwin, a prisoner taken by Commodore Hopkins, was permitted by the Governor and Council to go to Congress, on his parole for his exchange, or to return, as Congress should direct.

Justus Miles, a reputed tory, was assigned to the care of Mr. Chapman Grant, of East Windsor, who was authorized to keep and govern him in such manner as he should think prudent.

The names of the officers appointed to fill the vacancies of field officers, captains, &c., occasioned by refusals of like officers, in the eight battalions, should be made out in a list, and transmitted to Maj. Gen. Spencer; that the generals from this State in the service, should be desired, with the colonels, to arrange said officers into regiments, &c.

IN SESSION, November 29.

The Governor desired the commissaries that had purchased clothing for the soldiers of this State, in the continental army, to forward such clothing to the army, and deliver it to the quarter master general, or some other proper person appointed by the general officers. And the Governor was required to order the rum, and other refreshments provided for the soldiers of this State in the army, forwarded to the west part of Connecticut. Also to write to Gen. Washington, to advise with such general officers from this State, as should be near him, and point out a plan by which the resolve for supplying the soldiers from this State with refreshments and clothing, at prime cost, could be carried into execution.

IN SESSION, December 6.

At this time there was a large fleet of men of war and transports at anchor, a trifle westward of New London harbor, and the design unknown; the Governor and Council considered it prudent to remove the continental and colonial property, at New London, to Norwich, and to take a quantity of wheat on board a ship in New London, commanded by Capt. Kennedy, for public use; and Capt. Ephraim Bill, Jabez Perkins, and David Mumford, of Norwich, were appointed to assist Mr. Shaw in removing the wheat to the mills to be floured, and the continental and colonial ships, stores, &c., to the places of the greatest safety up the Norwich river, (Thames) and secure the same.

Orders were given to several regiments of militia, to march to New London, in defence of this country, against the invasion of the enemy. Also, letters were sent to Gen. Washington and others, for the needful assistance, and steps to be taken in that alarming time of danger.

Elijah Sharp was appointed captain of a company in Col. Ely's regiment, instead of Ebenezer Holbrook.

Capt. John Deshon was appointed a commissary of the militia, (then) marching to the defence of New London, with orders by all means to furnish supplies of continental or colonial stores, as might be obtained.

IN SESSION, December 7.

Intelligence arrived that the British fleet had sailed from New London harbor; and orders were given to stop the march of the regiments ordered for the defence of New London, and to hold themselves in readiness to march to any place that should be attacked.

The prisoners sent from Gen. Washington, when at New York, under a guard commanded by Capt. Eells, were permitted to return to

Long Island, on their parole, to give no intelligence to the enemy, nor take up arms, &c., and return back to this State when demanded.

The gentlemen sent by Gen. Washington from Long Island to Norwich, had liberty given to return home, for the time being, by giving their parole of honor in the usual form, and return when required.

Capt. Bill was required to cause two-thirds of the rum of the cargo taken on board the schooner Hannah and Elizabeth, guaged and stored for public use ; and Capt. Bruce's adventure to be presented to him, as far as the State was concerned ; and the schooner and remainder of the cargo to be sold at public vendue. Also, in the sale of the ship Sally, if there should be any *duck* or spare rigging, cordage, or sails, which belonged to said ships or cargo, that Mr. Shaw should bid off the same for this State, if to be had at a rate considered reasonable.

#### IN SESSION, December 9.

Intelligence was received, that a large fleet of the British, with many transports, were pushing up Narragansett Bay, towards Newport, and Providence ; therefore orders were given to the eastern regiments to make ready and march to Rhode Island, to guard against any depredations of said fleet.

Col. Champion was sent for, and ordered to make provision for the troops ordered to Rhode Island.

Col. Elderkin and Lieut. Col. Storrs not being in a situation to march with the 5th regiment, the command of said regiment was given to Maj. Brown.

#### IN SESSION, December 10.

An order of £1,400 was given Capt. Harding, for the use of the brig Defence.

Orders were given to P. Wetmore, sheriff, on Capt. Harding's producing to him his power of attorney from the officers and men of the brig Defence, in the capture of the prize ship John, taken by and brought into New London, by said Defence, and condemned ; first to deduct charges of condemnation, and all other expenses, one-twentieth part of the nett proceeds of the avails of said ship and cargo being the admiral's part, as settled by Congress, and one-third of the remainder to be paid Capt. Harding for himself and crew, being their share.

Capt. J. Huntington, of Windham, was ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Coventry, 25 pounds of powder, for the use of the militia, then marching towards Providence.

#### IN SESSION, December 11.

An order of £674 : 2 : 3 was given Capt. Stanton, it being the full balance due of the account of the galley Shark.

Ralph Isaacs, Esq., who had been committed to the charge of the selectmen of Eastbury, in Glastenbury, by his ill health, &c., was permitted to be removed to Durham, under the restrictions of the authority and selectmen of said Durham.

IN SESSION, December 12.

William Howard was appointed lieutenant and commander of a company of militia in the second society in Windham, to march to Rhode Island, and be under the commander-in-chief there.

IN SESSION, December 13.

A letter of credit for £500, was ordered to be drawn by Messrs. John Rapalji and Miles Sherbrook, of the State of New York, in favor of Maj. Levi Wells, for the use of the continental troops in captivity (then) in New York.

The liquidation of the accounts of Capt. Jehiel Tinker, of the galley Crane ; of James Rice, for the galley Whiting ; the cost of the gaol yard at Hartford ; and Lynd Lord's account for mustering soldiers, to the committee of pay table, were before the Governor and Council.

The six field pieces left at New Haven, by the Minerva, were ordered to be fitted with carriages, the cost not exceeding £10 for each.

Col. Thompson was directed to take effectual care that the militia of New Haven should be every way equipped, and in constant readiness, as directed by an act of the Assembly.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Esq., was instructed to negotiate an exchange of the following prisoners, taken on board the ship John, the ship Clarendon, and the ship Sally, for prisoners of equal rank as near as might be, viz. : Capt. Dunbar, of the John ; James Watta, passenger on board. Capt. Jackson, of the Sally ; John Wright, surgeon. Capt. John Deniston, of the Clarendon ; Peter Hunter, passenger. Also, Daniel Crawford, mate ; Thomas Moor, boatswain ; James Deniston, a boy ; Murdock McCloud, a sailor ; and divers others, names unknown, and take their parole to give no intelligence, or do any thing against the States ; and if such exchange should not be effected, that they return immediately to this State.

IN SESSION, December 14.

Nathaniel Miner was paid £100, for the troops at Stonington.

The pay table were directed to adjust the account of Matthew Curtiss, Jr., of Newtown, for taking John Shepard to Windham gaol ; also the expense of an escort who conducted 17 prisoners, under the com-

mand of Capt. Ezra Starr, to prison ; and to draw for such sum as should be found justly due.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., was authorized to draw letters of credit in favor of the captain of the ship Oliver Cromwell, to make repairs or for supplies for said ship in any foreign port, and be indemnified by this State.

The commissaries were permitted to transport pork and flour to Rhode Island, and deliver it to Col. Champion, Capt. Jared Tracy, or Asa Waterman, Jr., for our troops in the service of Rhode Island.

Col. E. Wolcott, (then) at New London, was directed to employ all his men, that he could spare, in cutting and making fashines as fast as possible, and to employ others in New London, &c., for said purpose, to have them prepared and brought to fort Trumbull as soon as might be, and place them on said fort, so that on any sudden occasion the back of said fort should be filled up with fades or fashines, so as to secure the men who should be in said fort, on any sudden attack.

Dr. A. Waldo was appointed chief surgeon of the ship Oliver Cromwell.

An order of £10 was given to Gamaliel Babcock, (to go as an express to Ticonderoga,) for his expenses.

Col. Phillips, Mr. Jauney and his sons William and James, Mr. Miller, Mr. Walton, Hugh Wallace, in Middletown, and Reed and Palmer, in Windham, all from the State of New York, were permitted to return home upon the usual parole, and to return to this State if requested, &c.

Also, Mr. Munro, sent by the Albany committee, was permitted to return to his family, on the usual parole, but to return to this State by the 1st day of March, 1777.

#### IN SESSION, December 25.

Bunting Waddle, Corsey Whitehead, and Betts, were permitted to return to the State of New York, on the usual parole given by tories, but to return on request.

Terrance McDermott, a prisoner of war, was permitted to go to New York, on his parole, for 31 days, and then to return, unless he should be exchanged for some one of equal rank.

#### IN SESSION, December 26.

Sundry officers were appointed in the continental service, to fill the vacancies of such as had refused or declined offices.

#### IN SESSION, December 30.

Capt. Deshon had an order of £3,500, (order delivered to Peter Christophers.)

IN SESSION, December 31.

An order was given for 20 pounds of powder to prove muskets.

IN SESSION, January 1, 1777.

On a memorial of the civil authority, selectmen, &c., of New London, to purchase some part of a cargo of wheat, which arrived in the continental ship at New London, for their families' use, on account of the scarcity of grain; Maj. Hillhouse was desired to take measures to supply the poor, from said cargo.

Henry Vanschaick, Esq., was permitted to return to Kinderhook, and there to remain within that district until the 1st day of March, 1777, upon his parole not to act, do or say any thing to obstruct or contravene the measures adopted by the American States to preserve freedom.

IN SESSION, January 2.

The Governor and Council consulted on sundry matters with regard to Gov. Franklin's memorial; and filled up the vacancies of officers.

IN SESSION, January 6.

A letter was received and read, from Gov. Franklin to Gov. Trumbull, on the subject of his being returned to his family in New Jersey, which he stated had been allowed to other gentlemen who had been sent to Connecticut as tories; and remonstrated in terms more sharp than decent, against Gov. Trumbull's neglecting to answer a former letter he wrote him. The Council advised the Governor not to grant Gov. Franklin's request at that time of distress in New Jersey. And a letter was written by Col. Williams, &c., in answer to Gov. Franklin's letter, and informed him of the result by the Governor and Council.

IN SESSION, January 8.

Capt. Deshon was directed to examine a ship owned by Brown, Denison & Stewart, in Stonington, and if he should find her a suitable vessel for the importation of salt, to charter one-half of her for a voyage, under Geo. Coffin, to the Bahama Islands, &c., with such a cargo as would best suit the purpose; and to make use of all means in his power to import all the lead, sulphur, and flints he could obtain, &c.

An order was given on the overseers of the furnace, in favor of the ship Oliver Cromwell, for 200 hand grenadoes, and 1 ton of swivel shot, one-fourth less than those before sent from the furnace to that ship.

An order was given on the overseers of the Salisbury furnace, to the selectmen of Norwalk, for two 4 pounders, and four 3 pounders, to defend Norwalk.



Justus Miles was permitted to return to his family for two weeks, (in New Milford,) on his parole.

The State purchased of Capt. James Rice, two cannon, at New London, at £100 New York currency.

The sloop Catherine, (burden 100 tons,) navigated with eight men, was permitted to sail for Bourdeaux, with 300 casks of flax seed.

Also, the sloop William, of 95 tons, Peter Bontacue, master, with eight men, to sail for Bourdeaux, with 270 casks of flax seed. Also, brig Sally, of 120 tons, Christopher Hughs, master, to sail for France, with flax seed, and 5,000 staves. Also, the sloop Farmer, 70 tons, John Miller, master, to sail with 12,000 staves, to the West Indies.

#### IN SESSION, January 10.

Lieut. Samuel Bartram, of the brig Defence, was dismissed from service, for ill health.

Samuel Smedley was appointed 1st lieutenant of the brig Defence, instead of S. Bartram, dismissed. Henry Billings was appointed 2d lieutenant of said brig, instead of S. Smedley, promoted. Bebee was appointed master of said brig, instead of Josiah Burnham, resigned.

The brig Defence was ordered to sail on a cruise for three months, (and if Capt. Harding was unable to sail,) the command was given to the 1st lieutenant.

Orders of distribution of the last prize, taken by the brig Defence, were given.

Discretionary orders were given to the commander of the Defence, to join with other privateers, if he should think best, in an expedition against the vessels and wood cutters at Shelter Island.

The Governor was authorized to draw on a person in Bedford, who had sulphur, for one ton, in favor of William Pitkin and Mr. Doolittle, to be divided equally between them, and replaced by them.

Abraham Hand, Jeremiah Miller, and a negro named Jack, (owned by Col. Mulford,) in the care of Capt. Cockran, were permitted to return to Long Island.

#### IN SESSION, January 16.

Col. Ledyard received an order for £1,000, as commissary at Groton, for the support of the troops there.

A vote was passed to purchase all the blankets, and the suitable white linens, imported in the Dutch vessel at New London; also 15 pipes of wine, if to be purchased at a reasonable price; also shirts and stockings, and medicines chosen by the doctors, and such other as was necessary for the army, with arms, ammunition, &c., excepting gun-

powder. And Messrs. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. and A. Huntington were appointed to make such purchases for the public, as reasonable as they could.

IN SESSION, January 17.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. was instructed to negotiate an exchange of the following prisoners, viz. : Robert Hunter, captain of the Gaspee sloop, Michael Stanhope, midshipman of said sloop, John Kent, clerk, William Kent, William Allen, John Shaw, John Birkley, James Cox, Duncan McFarthing, James Lilley, Charles Patterson, John Barber, Frederick Roberson, and Peter Oring ; in case an exchange could not be effected, to take their parole, to return again to this State immediately, in the same vessel, without going on shore.

Barzillai Hudson was appointed ensign, and commandant of the guards about the gaol in Hartford.

The selectmen of Middletown were directed to deliver to Capt. Blackman 20 blankets, by them collected (on the list) for his company.

Hezekiah Eitch was appointed one of the committee to carry on the furnace, at Salisbury, with B. Henshaw and W. Whiting. Col. Porter was directed to deliver the possession of the furnace, at Salisbury, with all the utensils, &c., for cannon foundry, &c., with all the ware and stock owned by the State, into the hands of the aforesaid committee.

Joseph Osborn was permitted to return to Long Island, with his family.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) January 21.

Duncan Stewart, Esq. was permitted to return to New York, on his parole, to return in three months.

Ebenezer Hall, of Fairfield, was brought before the Governor and Council, being inimical to the States ; and after an explanation from the Governor, declared his belief in the justice of the American cause. The Governor and Council resolved, Hall should be permitted to return to his family, in Fairfield, and remain in his own business ; but to give a bond of £1,000 to return to said Fairfield, and there dwell, and not depart out of the limits, (i. e.) of Fairfield and Stratford, and say nothing against the interest or rights of any of the States, or hold any correspondence, or give any intelligence to the enemies of the States, and to repair to any other place directed by the Governor and Council.

Isaac Tomlinson, of Woodbury, was permitted to return to his family on the same conditions as was provided in the case of Ebenezer Hall aforesaid.

IN SESSION, January 23.

Letters were sent to Gen. Washington and others.

Eight 18 pound cannon, four 9 pounders, ten 6 pounders, seven 4 pounders, ten 3 pounders, were directed to be delivered, at the furnace, and shot in proportion, for Gen. Schuyler ; and a letter wrote to the overseers of the furnace for that purpose.

A letter was received by the Governor and Council from General Washington, informing of his (then) late success in New Jersey ; and directing the quota of forces filled in Connecticut, that they might be placed eastward of New York, to divert the force of the enemy apparently aiming at Philadelphia.

A letter was also received from President Hancock, urging the utmost despatch in filling our quota of the continental army.

A letter was sent to the Committee of Safety in the State of New York, concerning the embargo ; and license given John Canfield, Esq. to permit West India goods, &c., to pass out of this State into New York, for the inhabitants or army.

A letter was sent to Gen. Washington, by Maj. Wyllys, concerning an exchange of prisoners, or a return of prisoners sent from Connecticut to Newport, for exchange.

IN SESSION, January 24. .

William McDermot, a lieutenant in the 16th regiment in King George's army, a prisoner in Connecticut, was permitted to return to New York, on his parole, and to return here in fourteen days, unless he should procure the exchange of Lieut. Elisha Hopkins, of Hartford, to be made for himself ; said Hopkins being a prisoner to the British in New York, and out on his parole.

Mr. Ralph Isaacs, of Durham, supposed to be inimical to the State, and it being considered dangerous to the American cause to suffer him to be at large in said Durham, and retail rum, &c. ; the committee of inspection for said town, prayed that he might be confined within certain limits, in Durham. James Wadsworth, Jr., Israel Camp, James Arnold, Elnathan Camp, Phineas Spelman, Daniel Hall, and Stephen Norton, the committee of inspection for said Durham, were appointed to have the oversight of said Isaacs, and to limit the bounds within which said Isaacs should be circumscribed and kept, and report the same to the Governor and Council ; and notify said Isaacs of said limits, to which he was strictly enjoined to conform, and carefully abide within the same, and to have no intercourse with the inhabitants of said town, except so far as should be necessary for his and his family's support. And said committee were authorized to seize any

quantity of rum said Isaacs might have in possession, or property in, that might be brought into said Durham for sale, and the same examine and safely keep and dispose of for the use of the State, &c.

Capt. Asa Kinne, Capt. Ebenezer Mosely, and Capt. Benajah Leffingwell, were appointed captains of companies to serve in the State of Rhode Island until the 1st day of April, 1777, according to the agreement of the convention of committees from the New England States, held at Providence.

Much time was spent in consulting how to supply the country with war stores, applied for by Col. Stewart, and provide for the batteries at New London ; and the raising of troops to serve in Rhode Island.

Ralph Watson, a tory from the north, who was kept at Preston, was permitted to return home to Allenton or Arlington, on his parole, to return to Connecticut, if the committee of his town should so direct him.

IN SESSION, January 25.

Held a consultation on the tory convicts, &c.

Gave a letter of credit to Col. Stewart for ordinance, stores, &c., for Massachusetts.

The captains to serve in Rhode Island were sent for to take their orders.

John Betts, Nathaniel Fitch, Stephen Keeler, John Husted, Jacob Seville, Josiah Seely, Isaac Hubbard, James Smith, and Benjamin James, convict tories confined in Lebanon and Coventry, were permitted to return home, on the usual parole.

The sheriff of New London county was ordered, with the assistance of Ephraim Bill, to collect the expenses of condemnation, storage, and sales on the prize ship Sally, and schooner Hannah and Elizabeth, and their cargoes, and adjust and pay them ; to deduct one-twentieth part of the net proceeds of each prize, and to pay one-third of the remainder of each, to the agents of the crews of the captors. The crew of the brig Defence and Spy to receive the same.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon) January 27.

Isaac Burr was appointed a lieutenant in the place of George Burr, declined.

Lieut. Burr represented to the Governor and Council that 20 men at Fairfield, was an insufficient number to manage their double fortified 12 pounders, and that he expected a visit from the enemy, &c. The Governor and Council allowed an addition of 5 men to be stationed at the battery for one year, in said Fairfield.

Ebenezer Holly, Elliott Green, J. Husted, J. Seely, B. James, J. Hubbard, J. Scofield, Nathaniel Fitch, J. Smith, G. Hait, S. Keeler,

and J. Betts, convict tories, were permitted to return home upon their bond of £1,000 each, to the Treasurer of the State for their good behavior, &c.

Dr. Benjamin Ellis was appointed surgeon of the brig Defence.

The Governor issued his proclamation to Capt. Ebenezer Mosely, to raise (under the resolve of the Assembly, held at Middletown,) 1,002 men in this State, to join the army at Providence, under Gen. Spencer, as the quota of this State. The Governor and Council resolved, to raise three companies of militia, to serve until the 1st day of April, 1777, by enlistment. Said Mosely was appointed one of the captains of said companies; and was commanded to enlist a company of able bodied men for said service of 76 privates; with orders given to the other captains to proceed with their enlistments, &c. Joseph Burgess was appointed 1st lieutenant, under Capt. E. Mosely, to serve in Rhode Island. Joseph Carew was appointed 1st lieutenant, under Capt. Benajah Leffingwell, to serve in Rhode Island.

IN SESSION, January 28.

Lazarus Beach, Andrew Fairchild, N. Lee, E. Lee, A. Burr, of Redding, and Thomas Allen, of Newtown, tory convicts, confined in Mansfield, to prevent their mischievous practices, made their escape, and were retaken and brought before the Governor and Council, to be dealt with. The Governor and Council ordered, that they should be confined in gaol at Windham, and there safely kept until released by due order of law; and pay the cost of arrest and remanding, &c., being £25 : 14.

John Sanford, a prisoner at Mansfield, was allowed to give his bond of £1,000, conditioned that he should truly return to Redding, and abide within said town, not to speak against the interest of any of the States, hold no correspondence with, or give any intelligence to the enemy, &c., and to repair to any place assigned by the Governor.

Robert Lewis was appointed captain; David Welles, lieutenant; and Phineas Sherman, ensign of a company of volunteers raised in Stratford, to join the continental army.

James Beard was appointed captain; Daniel Chatfield, lieutenant; and John Humphrey, ensign of a company raised in Derby, for the same purpose.

Orders were given Capt. Coit, of the ship Oliver Cromwell, to order all his officers and men on board his ship to their duty; and fit the same to sail with all possible despatch; to land 4 of the guns on board said ship, in the care of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.; and make return, as soon as the crew should be collected, for further directions to proceed to sea.

£25 : 14 was allowed John Slater, of Waterbury, for his expense of guarding and transporting six run away tories, taken up at Waterbury, and returned.

£150 was allowed to Capt. Coit, to proceed on his cruise.

A reverend clergyman, of Fairfield, was sent to the Governor and Council as being dangerous to this and the United States ; who was ordered to the parish of New Britain, in Farmington, under the care of Col. Lee, and not to depart out of the limits of the society.

IN SESSION, January 31.

Letters were read from the chairman of the Council of War, in Providence ; from Gen. Green ; Gen. O. Wolcott, and others.

An order was drawn on Prosper Wetmore, for £483, in favor of Capt. Niles, of the Spy, for the accounts of the schooner Spy.

The spreading of the small pox, and how to prevent it, was before the Governor and Council. The Governor was advised to issue his proclamation, and state the dangers of its spreading against the law, and particularly at that season of the year, &c. ; to encourage inoculation in pest houses, under good regulations, &c. &c.

IN SESSION, February 1.

John Mix, of Farmington, was appointed ensign, under Capt. William Judd, in Col. Wyllys' regiment.

A letter from Gen. Washington was read, pressing the necessity of speedily filling our quota of troops, &c.

Daniel Allen was appointed captain of a company in Col. Durkee's regiment, in the place of Oliver Babcock.

Return J. Meigs was appointed major of Col. Wyllys' regiment, in the continental service.

IN SESSION, February 3.

An advertisement was ordered to be published in the New London paper, to notify those who wished to purchase flax at the west, for their own use, to apply speedily, lest the surplus of the article in the State, might be disposed of to others.

Charles Barrett, of New Ipswich, was permitted to purchase 1,800 pounds of flax in Fairfield county, and transport it out of the State.

Oliver Blood, of Ashley, in Massachusetts, was permitted to purchase 800 pounds of flax in Fairfield county, to transport out of this State, to said Ashley.

IN SESSION, February 4.

Ralph Isaacs, by his counsel, Chauncey and Ingersoll, applied to have his limits of confinement in Durham, enlarged ; he complained

that the house was bad and shattered, and his limits unreasonably small, &c. The Governor and Council ordered him removed to Wallingford, to be under the civil authority and selectmen, and kept in one of the societies in said town, under the same regulations as at Eastbury.

IN SESSION, February 6.

A letter was read from Gen. Schuyler, expressing his great and almost certain expectation of an attack upon Ticonderoga soon, and pressing the Governor and Council for men, &c.

A letter from Deputy Quarter Master General Lovat, of Providence, was read, applying for 1,000 bushels of oats, to supply the army there; liberty to take 400 bushels was granted.

Thomas Grosvenor was appointed major of Col. Wyllys' regiment, in place of Maj. Bigelow, resigned.

Timothy Cleveland was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Webb's company, in place of Abraham Wright.

Examined and allowed an account of Judah Alden, for going express to Gen. Washington, with letters concerning the exchange of prisoners, in November or December, 1776.

The Governor and Council were notified that several persons who had been detached in the 3d, 8th, 12th, 20th and 25th regiments, by a resolve of the Assembly, to be marched to and about New London, had refused to join their corps, or march to New London; and that Col. Throop, commander of said detachment, had sent a file of men, and by force taken and carried them to New London, which caused much dispute as to the legality of the procedure of Col. Throop. The Governor and Council decided that under all the circumstances of the case, the commanding officer was warranted in enforcing the order of the Assembly.

Ichabod Hinkley was established captain in the place of Capt. Peritt, (then in captivity) in Col. Webb's regiment.

IN SESSION, February 7.

David Trumbull was appointed to provide axes, augurs, &c., requested by Col. Stewart, by an order of Congress.

Lieut. Thomas Abbe, (of Swift's regiment,) was appointed captain, instead of Grosvenor, promoted; and Sylvanus Perry, 2d lieutenant in Chandler's regiment, was appointed 1st lieutenant, instead of Abbe, in Wyllys' regiment; Charles Mills, 1st lieutenant, instead of Lieut. Abbe, promoted in Swift's regiment; in Elderkin's company, Phineas Grover, ensign of said company, was appointed 2d lieutenant therein, and Richard Abbe, ensign of the same.

Josiah Child to be captain in Bradley's regiment, in the place of Capt. Benjamin Cutler, resigned ; and Edmund Palmer, ensign of the same.

Lieut. Samuel Smedley was appointed captain of the brig Defence, for the cruise, instead of Capt. Harding, (who was in ill health.) James Angel was appointed 3d lieutenant of the brig Defence.

On motion of Lieut. Gov. Griswold, voted, that the guard of 15 men, near the mouth of Connecticut river, in Lyme, under Ensign John Griswold, be removed to attend duty at Black Point, in Lyme ; unless the selectmen and authority in Lyme should judge best for a part of them to be stationed between Black Point and the mouth of Connecticut river ; the men to be careful to prevent all communication between Long Island and the main ; to seize and hold in custody all the boats and other water craft used for that purpose, (without a legal permit,) and arrest all persons in whose possession such water craft should be found, &c.

IN SESSION, February 8.

A permit was granted to Daniel Payne for 6 oxen, at Rehoboth ; Nathaniel Child, 6 oxen, at Roxbury ; a permit for 100 bushels of rye ; Preserved Abel, a permit for 100 barrels of pork for Rehoboth, &c.

Letters were despatched to Congress, to Gen. Washington, Gen. Heath, Gen. Green, &c., by a Congress post.

Brown, the post, returned from Congress with letters, &c. ; left Baltimore last Thursday week, with answers to letters sent from Hartford three weeks since.

Capt. Keene applied for arms for Providence. The selectmen of the towns where Capt. Keene's company was raised, were directed to provide arms and blankets for said company, where said soldiers belonged.

Lieut. Billings, of the brig Defence, resigned his office, and Nathaniel Shaw, Esq. was ordered to appoint a proper person to be 2d lieutenant in his room.

Gave an order to Sheriff Wetmore, to pay out of the money in his hands, (owned by the State,) as marshal of the admiralty court—Capt. Asa Keene, £80 towards paying his company.

Col. Wyllys moved the Governor and Council for arms and clothing for his battalion, &c. Chauncey Whittlesey, as commissary, was directed to deliver to Col. Wyllys, clothes made, or such quantity of cloth, &c., in his hands, for soldiers' clothing, as Col. Wyllys should need for the soldiers in his regiment. Mr. Whittlesey was also ordered to make soldiers' coats and trim the same in uniform, as Col. Wyl.



lys should direct, and send to this Board an account of all articles provided.

Fire arms were greatly needed for the continental regiments, (then raising in Connecticut ;) therefore it was ordered, that Col. S. Wyllys should take for the use of his battalion, all such fire arms as were in the hands of the State, which belonged either to the State or United States, not exceeding a sufficient number for said regiment, exclusive of the arms which belonged to the Governor's guard.

Ralph Pomeroy was appointed pay master of Col. Wyllys' regiment.

Samuel Gray, Esq. was directed to hold in his hands all the continental cloth or clothing in his custody, until further orders ; and to transmit to said Board an exact account of all articles lodged with him.

James Underwood, of Litchfield, in New Hampshire, was permitted to purchase in Fairfield county, 2,234 pounds of flax ; and Capt. William Alld, of Merrimack to purchase in said county, 2,000 pounds of flax.

#### IN SESSION, February 10.

Phineas Gleason, of Westborough, in Massachusetts, was permitted to purchase in Milford, 600 pounds of flax, or in Fairfield county, the embargo notwithstanding.

#### IN SESSION, February 11.

A letter to Woodbury was written in answer to theirs, about the spreading of the small pox.

Letters were read from Danbury, in answer to letters from the Governor and Council, about sundry valuable officers, prisoners with Gen. Howe, &c., that all possible care and pains had been taken to obtain them, &c.

Selah Benton, of Milford, was appointed 1st lieutenant, in the room of Mr. West ; Daniel Eldridge, 2d lieutenant, in the place of Bosworth ; Asa Brownson, in Capt. Shumway's company.

A. Fairchild, A. Burr, L. Beach, N. Lee, E. Lee, and T. Allen, were adjudged tories, and committed to Windham gaol, were ordered released from said prison, by their paying the cost taxed by the Governor and Council at £25 : 14, and all costs that had arose afterwards, and to return to Mansfield, and there remain under the committee of inspection in said town until duly released. Nathan and Enos Lee were permitted to return home, by giving bonds for their future good behavior.

Seth Hall and Ebenezer Sturges, two prisoners confined in the town of Mansfield, were allowed to return home, under bonds for their good behavior.

John Marsh, 3d., of Litchfield, applied for liberty to take Mark Prindle, of Harwinton, (a tory at Mansfield,) and him have before the court at Litchfield, in discharge of his bail bond, given for said Prindle in another case ; which was granted by the Governor and Council, with their order to return said Prindle, after his trial, to Amariah Williams, in said Mansfield.

The overseers of Salisbury furnace were directed to cast for Thomas Bidwell, (a manufacturer of sulphur,) 20 iron pots, and more if said Bidwell should wish.

Col. Hall, of Wallingford, appeared before the Governor and Council for directions concerning the tories in Wallingford.

As our army at home were in want of clothes, Capt. Squire was directed to send no more clothing towards New York ; and to take care of a quantity of pork he had purchased, &c. Mr. Burr had the same directions as to clothing ; Jonathan Fitch also.

Mr. Herpin, of Milford, had waited several days to be heard on an account for bringing cannon, building the fort at Milford, &c., and was allowed in all, £95 : 0 : 10.

Capt. Joshua Huntington, of Norwich, was appointed to superintend the building of a 36 gun frigate for the United States, (ordered by Congress.)

Salisbury furnace was greatly in need of sulphur, and the Governor and Council ordered Col. W. Pitkin to supply them with 2,800 pounds of brimstone ; and Mr. Whittlesey to furnish 20 blankets for said furnace, and both to be delivered to Capt. Tiley, at Hartford.

Capt. B. Leffingwell applied for money to pay the premium of his company, raised for Providence, and received an order of £86.—Norwich, per order, furnished said company with fire arms, &c.

#### IN SESSION, February 13.

Capt. Grant applied for Justus Niles to return home, and permission was granted, by his giving a bond, &c.

Vacancies of officers in Col. Chandler's regiment, were filled.

#### IN SESSION, February 14.

Letters were sent by Capt. Mansfield, via. Providence, to Livingston & Trumbull, (agents for the country,) at Boston, to purchase clothing for our soldiers, viz. : for four battalions, and the 1st regiment to be of a dark brown color.

Letters were sent to Mr. J. Trumbull, at Boston, to purchase fire arms, if to be had, for four regiments; and authorized said Trumbull to draw on the Treasurer of this State for any sum he should find necessary, to purchase any quantity of fire arms, accoutrements, and clothing he might purchase in any of the New England States, for this State.

Timothy Taylor was appointed 2d lieutenant of Capt. Hinkley's company, in the place of Lieut. Judson Whiting, deceased; and Rufus Prince, ensign of said company.

John Shumway was appointed captain, in the room of Capt. Bacon, in Col. Huntington's regiment. Henry Hill, 1st lieutenant in Richard's company, in the place of Abraham Wright, resigned. Joel Gillet, 2d lieutenant; Paul Piercival, adjutant in said Huntington's regiment. Martin Kirtland was appointed captain of a company in Col. W. Douglass' regiment, instead of Capt. Munson, resigned.

A permit was granted to Thomas Cooper, a commissary of stores, at Montreal; and his wife, to go to Gen. Schuyler, and be subject to his orders; on his giving his parole to the committee of prisoners at Hartford, in the usual form, to be endorsed on the permit, authorizing said committee, if they see cause, to permit eight Canadian prisoners, about Hartford, to go to Gen. Schuyler, and be subject to his orders.

A permit was given Mr. Monson Hoit, at Stratford, to pass to Jamaica, on Long Island, to visit his patron, Mr. Christopher Smith, and return to Stratford within 30 days, by his giving his parole to the authority to give no intelligence; &c., and to have the committee of Stratford endorse said permit.

Bildad Granger was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Hall's company, in Col. Chandler's regiment; Paul Brigham was appointed captain in Col. Chandler's regiment.

John Halsted was permitted to purchase 6 hogsheads of sugar, 1 hogshead of rum, 1 chest of tea, and 1,500 weight of coffee, in this State, at the lawful prices, and carry the same to New Jersey; afterwards enlarged to 6,000 pounds of coffee.

#### IN SESSION, February 15.

Capt. Ledyard and Capt. Palmer were sent for to consult about raising artillery companies.

An order was given on Gen. J. Huntington, for a chest of broken fire arms, (he received from the Oliver Cromwell,) to William Williams, who was directed to see the same repaired for the use of the State.

Gen. Parsons was desired to draw on Col's. Huntington's and Dur-

kee's regiments at the posts and forts at New London, Groton, and Stonington, for defence at those places.

Lieut. Dyer Throop, with the advice of Gen. Parsons, was directed to dismiss the militia at New London and Groton, in such form as to retain a number for defence, until the continental regiments should arrive for that purpose. Capt. Nathan Palmer, at Stonington, was directed to dismiss his company as soon as Gen. Parsons should send to that place a sufficient number of continental troops for the defence of that post.

The Governor and Council voted to raise a company of artillery, to be stationed at Groton and Stonington, until the 1st day of February, 1778—with 1 captain, 1 captain-lieutenant, 2 lieutenants, 1 lieutenant fire worker, 3 sargeants, 3 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, 8 gunners, and 33 privates, &c. Capt. William Ledyard was appointed captain of said company.

Col. J. Huntington's battalions were ordered to be clothed with the red coats brought in a prize vessel, in the hands of Dr. Samuel Gray, of Windham, and in the hands of Col. S. Webb, at Wethersfield.

John Ripley, of Windham, was appointed major of four companies, under Capts. Ebenezer Mosely, Asa Kinne, Benajah Leffingwell, and Sanford Kingsbury, Esq's.

IN SESSION, (Monday) February 17.

Congress resolved, that two frigates should be built in Connecticut; one of 36 and the other of 28 guns. Gov. Trumbull and his Council were empowered to determine at what places said frigates should be built, and to appoint proper persons to execute and superintend the business. The Governor and Council decided that one of said frigates, (the one of 36 guns) should be built in the river Thames, between New London and Norwich; and appointed Capt. Joshua Huntington, of Norwich, to execute and superintend the building of the same. The Governor and Council voted to raise a company of matross, to be stationed at New London, in the service of the State, until the 1st day of February, 1778. Nathaniel Saltonstall was appointed captain of said company; Nathaniel Coit, Jr., captain-lieutenant; Daniel Starr, lieutenant; and Daniel Dee, 2d lieutenant of said company of artillery, and Blackney, lieutenant fire worker.

The Governor and Council voted, that Samuel Gray, of Windham, should deliver to Col. Jedediah Huntington, colonel of a battalion (then) raising for continental service during the war, or for three years, or his order, the 30 packages of clothing in his hands, taken in a prize ship, each of them numbered on the invoice.

## IN SESSION, February 18.

The Governor and Council decided that the frigate of 28 guns, to be built in this State, should be built on the Connecticut river, at Chatham; and appointed John Cotton, of Middletown, to execute and superintend the building of said frigate.

Voted, to draw on Col. William Williams, of Lebanon, to deliver to Capt. Benajah Leffingwell, of Norwich, or order, 29 fire arms, with or without bayonets, for the use of Capt. B. Leffingwell's company; also to call on Col. Joshua Huntington, to deliver the selectmen of Norwich, 13 colony arms for Capt. Leffingwell's company.

A permit was given to Samuel Coburn for 100 pounds of flax, and George Coburn for 200 pounds of flax, and to one Blanchard for 200 pounds, to be by them carried to New Hampshire, the embargo notwithstanding.

Gideon Mills was appointed 1st lieutenant in Col. C. Webb's regiment, in Capt. Parker's company, in the place of Samuel Webb, absent.

George Hubbard was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Hinkley's company, in Col. Webb's regiment, instead of James Betts.

Theophilus Munson was appointed captain of a company in Col. Chandler's regiment, in place of Stephen Hall.

## IN SESSION, February 19.

John Lightbody had a permit given to transport 4 hogsheads of rum out of this colony to the State of New York, for the use of the people of Orange county.

Dudley Wright, Jr., was appointed 1st lieutenant; Solomon Tarbox, 2d lieutenant; and Prentice Hosmer, ensign in a company in Col. Wyllys' regiment.

An order of £108 : 13 : 4 was drawn to pay for 326 gallons of rum bought of Zabdiel Rogers, &c., for the use of the men at the cannon foundry at Salisbury.

Hezekiah Ripley, Jr., had an order of £3 : 16, for his journey and expense to Boston, on continental business.

The committee of pay table were directed to deliver to the commissioner of the loan office for this State, the certificates of the continental loan office that had been, or should be sent to this State, for the loan office here; and that the pay table here receive of the commissioner of the continental loan office for this State, the contents of two orders, drawn on said loan office, by the continental Treasurer, in favor of this State—one dated January 6, 1777, of \$40,000; the other January 30, 1777, for \$33,333 34, in payment of the sum advanced to Col. Sheldon, at the request of Gen. Washington, &c.

An officer enquired of the Governor and Council whether he could enlist soldiers for the continental service, out of a company detached or enlisted for a short or a particular service ? The opinion of said Board was, that any officer, appointed by this State, to enlist for continental service in the State, could enlist such soldiers from detached companies, or enlisted companies, for any short or particular service. And his premium or bounty deducted from the £10 bounty given by this State, in continental service, in proportion to the time he had served in said particular service.

Andrew Fitch was appointed captain in Col. Durkee's regiment, instead of Capt. Tyler, resigned.

A permit was given to Capt. Giles Mansfield, to transport 6 hogsheads of sugar to Peekskill, at the desire of Gen. Arnold, for the army.

IN SESSION, February 20.

An order was given on Christopher Leffingwell and William Coit, to deliver one hogshead of the molasses, called tory molasses, to Joseph Abel, for the furnace at Salisbury ; and said Abel's receipt for it, deliver to Capt. J. Perkins and Rufus Lathrop.

An order of £2 was given the Governor for money he paid Benjamin Boss, of Baltimore, (who he redeemed from captivity,) for his expenses homeward.

Application was made to the Governor and Council, by Ezekiel Howell, Daniel Howell, and others, refugees from Long Island, and friends to the country ; and asked relief in getting their effects from said island to Connecticut, as all intercourse was by law prohibited. Orders were given to the civil authority and selectmen of the towns of Saybrook and Stonington in their respective towns, on application, by any such refugees for boats or vessels, to bring their effects, after being satisfied of the integrity of the applicants to license any boats or vessels, and hands to assist to bring their goods, &c., from Long Island to Connecticut, or any friendly persons disposed to remove from Long Island to Connecticut ; and to afford any such suffering refugees all reasonable relief, and aid to obtain such boats, &c., as their circumstances should require, at their own risk and expense, using prudence that no deceit be practiced under color of such license, by any concerned. The above authority to continue six weeks, and due return make to the Governor and Council.

Jonathan Stone and Elisha Keys were permitted to purchase and carry out of this State, 800 pounds of flax, to Shrewsbury.

The town of Hebron had an order on Elderkin & Wales for 200 pounds of powder.

Samuel Granger was appointed captain in Col. Webb's regiment, instead of Abiel Pease, resigned.

Benjamin Holcomb was appointed 2d lieutenant in the same company.

Elijah Backus was ordered to make another cannon, as the first he made, split in proving.

IN SESSION, February 21.

A letter received from Gen. Washington of the 10th of February, stated, that he found it impossible to prevent the small pox from spreading through the army, and that he had determined to inoculate all the new troops who had not had the disease ; that he had given directions to Gen. Parsons to superintend the inoculation of the continental troops in Connecticut. The Governor and Council therefore ordered, that the new raised troops, in this State, for continental service, should be inoculated with the small pox as soon as might be, with as little danger to the inhabitants as possible ; and Gen. Parsons was desired to consult with the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns, where he should have said troops inoculated ; to provide suitable hospitals for the purpose, and provide surgeons, nurses, and attendants, and give orders for necessary bedding, utensils, food, medicine, &c., to be furnished for said soldiers ; also to give orders for guards to be placed about said hospitals, to prevent all unnecessary communication with said infected persons from without, and to prevent said infected soldiers from wandering out of said hospitals and exposing the inhabitants. And when convalescent to be thoroughly cleansed in their persons and clothing—(all without any expense to this State.) The civil authority and selectmen of the several towns, were directed to render Gen. Parsons all necessary aid, and to take the utmost care that the small pox should not spread from the hospitals ; and to make rules for the government of said patients in the hospitals. The families of such persons as should use their houses as hospitals had the privilege of inoculation therein, with the soldiers. Gen. Parsons was directed to report to the Governor from time to time, his progress in said business.

Erastus Wolcott, Jr., was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Parson's company, in Col. Webb's regiment, in the continental service ; Timothy White, 2d lieutenant ; Noah Phelps, of East Windsor, ensign in said company.

An order was given on Dr. J. Elderkin, to deliver Col. W. Douglass, or his order, 300 blue coats in his possession, lappelled with ash colored cloth.

The Governor was desired to draw on President Hancock for \$25,000, in favor of N. Shaw, Jr., upon the credit of the State.

A bounty of £10 was offered to each non-commissioned officer and soldier who should enlist, and be accepted as of the quota of soldiers (then) to be raised in the State, to make up the sixteen battalions ordered by Congress to be raised in the United States, in addition to the eighty-eight battalions, for three years, or during the war ; which bounty was to be in addition to the continental encouragement to be given said troops, as was done in the eight battalions ordered by Congress.

IN SESSION, February 22.

An order was drawn on Prosper Wetmore, Esq., in favor of Capt. S. Harding, for £1,000 : 15 : 6½, in full of Harding's account.

John L. C. Rome, Esq., of New York, confined as a tory at Norwich, was permitted to return to New York, on his parole, in the usual form, and to return on request of the Governor and Council.

IN SESSION, February 24.

A large number of tories appeared before the Governor and Council ; and permission was voted to Job Bamlost, Enoch Warren, Joseph Olmsted, and Richard Partricks, of Norwich, (who resided in Coventry,) Frederick Dibble and Stephen Wilson, at Lebanon, to return home, and remain until recalled or sent back ; each of whom signed a full declaration of the justice of the American cause, and their readiness to take up arms in defence of said cause.

Gardner Olmsted, of Norwalk, Nathaniel Munday, and Samuel Crissy, of Stamford, came in and signed the aforesaid declaration, and were also permitted to return home.

Gen. Spencer arrived from Providence, and moved the Governor and Council, if practicable, to have some further relief and assistance of men, &c., to enable him to carry into execution the proposed plan of making an attack upon the island of Rhode Island, with a view to dislodge the enemy's troops posted there, having made great preparation for that purpose ; and stated that more men were wanted to make the attempt.

Maj. Wyllys, who had been to solicit an exchange of himself, and was not able to effect it, but had liberty to do so, if he could send Capt. Luke, a prisoner, into this State, &c.

Hubbard and John Wilson, tory prisoners, in Lebanon, had frequently visited houses infected with the small pox, and returned into company to expose those who had not been infected, which greatly alarmed the inhabitants of Lebanon ; and had travelled over their limits to which they were confined, &c. The Governor and Council



ordered them, under the direction of the selectmen of said town, as to their residence and conduct, on pain of imprisonment, or other punishment, directed by said Board.

IN SESSION, February 26.

It was decided by the Governor and Council that the proportion of men to be raised by Connecticut, of the sixteen regiments to be raised in the United States, was 1,000 men. And directed the bounty money to be distributed as follows, viz. : to those under Col. Samuel B. Webb, to the number of 500 ; to those under Lieut. Col. R. J. Meigs, 250 ; those under Lieut. Col. Thomas Dyer, 250. And the committee of pay table were ordered to draw on the Treasurer for said bounty to be advanced to the captains in said battalions, in this State.

IN SESSION, February 27.

A consultation was held by the Governor and Council about the alarming accounts of extortion and evasions of dealers in all West India goods, and the great difficulties brought upon the people by means of such practices.

John Harris was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Nathaniel Webb's company.

William Nichols was appointed pay master of Col. Swift's regiment.

Gen. Spencer appeared again before the Governor and Council, and was greatly disappointed in not obtaining the troops he had been encouraged to have received from Gen. Pars ons ; and thought it doubtful whether he could possibly get a sufficient number of men for his proposed expedition to Newport, &c. But Gen. Spencer concluded to return to Providence, and learn whether he could procure any aid from Massachusetts ; and if he could, he was authorized by the Governor and Council to call upon a number of officers at the eastern part of Connecticut to raise such a number of men as they could, to aid in said expedition, to be paid by the State.

\$60,000 was sent to Gov. Trumbull, by order of Gen. Washington, from Mr. Palfrey, pay master general of the continental army, towards the premium granted by Congress to the continental troops (then) raising in this State, to be delivered to the colonels of the battalions. The Governor and Council authorized David Trumbull to receive said money, and pay it to the several colonels of said battalions ; \$20,000 of which, had by an express request of Gen. Washington, been sent to Gen. Knox, of the artillery.

IN SESSION, February 28.

Benjamin Brown, of Fisher's Island, appeared, and moved for his compensation for stock taken from him in July, 1776. The amount of

said stock, appraised by E. Ledyard, E. Avery, Jr, and R. Mumford, was £570 : 3 ; which was allowed and paid. John Winthrop, administrator of John Still Winthrop, Esq., (then) deceased, certified that said Brown was under bonds for the performance of his lease of said island, and accountable to the heirs of said Winthrop, for the use of said island, the stock, &c., therefore an order was drawn for the same, in favor of said Brown.

A long consultation was held by the Governor and Council, how and in what manner they could check the extortion so prevalent.

Nehemiah Rice was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. David Smith's company, in Col. Chandler's regiment, and transferred Lieut. Baldwin from that company to Capt. Botsford's company, in Col. Swift's regiment.

Mr. Griffith, of Guilford, was permitted to go out with a vessel loaded with staves, &c., five barrels of pork and beef, including vessel's stores, and return with a cargo of salt.

Mr. Andrew Huntington, of Norwich, was directed to purchase 50 hogsheads of West India and New England rum, for a supply of the troops of the State, for a sum not to exceed the price fixed by law. Chauncey Whittlesey, of Middletown, was also ordered to purchase 100 hogsheads of West India and New England rum, for the same purpose. David Webb, of Stamford, was also directed to purchase 100 hogsheads of West India or New England rum, for said use, and each of them report their success.

The Governor prepared and had printed a proclamation, to enforce the law for regulating prices, &c.

IN SESSION, March 5.

A long consultation was holden by the Governor and Council, of the practicability, and how to effect an attempt upon Long Island, to destroy forage, &c., &c., according to Gen. Washington's proposal, in his letter to Gen. Parsons, who was present with the letter. [The letter is now in the hands of Enoch Parsons, Esq., son of Gen. Parsons.]

It was voted, to draw off Col. Ely from Providence, to march to New London with four companies of his men, to wait further orders.

Doolittle & Co. were ordered to deliver the selectmen of Milford 150 pounds of cannon powder, for the use of the fort in said Milford.

Eli Catlin was appointed captain in Col. Heman Swift's regiment, instead of Capt. R. Walker, engaged in the train of artillery.

IN SESSION, March 6.

Joseph Fisk was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Lee's company, in Col. Durkee's regiment.

William Fitch, a tory convict, confined in Canterbury, was permitted to return to Stamford and back to Canterbury, within twenty days, by his giving a bond, &c.

Chauncey Whittlesey had an order of £540, to purchase clothing.

IN SESSION, March 7.

Sailing orders were given to Capt. Niles to go in the Spy to Maryland or Virginia, after flour, &c.

Isaac Sherman was appointed lieutenant colonel, in Charles Webb's battalion, in continental service.

Hezekiah Holdridge was appointed major of Col. C. Webb's regiment aforesaid ; Mr. Webb was appointed pay master of Col. C. Webb's regiment.

Upon a memorial of Capt. John Nott and others, commander and owners of the brig of war America, then lying at Black Rock, in Fairfield, for a permit to take on board a sufficient number of men, and remove said brig to the port of New London ; which was granted, with an order to dismiss, on arriving there, all the men, except enough to work on board and take care of said brig.

John Tuttle, of Southhold, on Long Island, who fled for refuge to this State, was permitted to transport, by land, from this State, to the State of New York, 13 hogsheads of rum, and 10 hogsheads of sugar, for the continental army.

David Munro was permitted to bring 3,600 pounds of flax, by him purchased in this State, to Hartford, and there deposite it with Capt. William Tyley, until further orders.

Capt. Bill was directed to deliver a barrel of rum to Capt. R. Niles, for the schooner Spy.

John Mills was appointed 1st lieutenant of a company in Col. Swift's regiment.

£16 : 16 was paid John Mills, for money he advanced for expenses in defending Fairfield harbor.

IN SESSION, March 8.

Thomas Allen was confined as a tory, to the limits of the first society in Windham, under the care of Maj. E. Backus, &c., until further orders.

As the time of service of the militia, at New London and Groton, had nearly expired, the Governor and Council ordered, that one-fourth part of the 3d and 8th regiments of militia, in the State, should be drafted, and formed into companies, and officered by 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 1 ensign, to be appointed by the field officers of those regi-

ments. Those drafted from the 3d regiment, to form one company ; and those drafted from the 8th regiment, to be formed into two companies. And the veteran guards in the 20th regiment was augmented to 64 privates, by a draft from other companies in said regiment, (exclusive of light infantry,) and placed under the officers of the veteran guards ; and when so formed, were ordered to be marched to said forts. Those from the 3d and 20th regiments, to garrison at or near New London. Those of the 8th regiment, at the forts at Groton ; and all to be under the command of Maj. Nathan Gallup, until the 15th of April, 1777, unless sooner discharged.

John Mills was appointed captain of a company in Col. Swift's regiment, in the continental service ; Sylvanus Mead, of Greenwich, was appointed 1st lieutenant of the same company.

Andrew Huntington, commissary of clothing for the army, was directed to deliver Col. J. Huntington 700 hats for his regiment.

David Spencer was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Holmes' company, in Col. Huntington's regiment, instead of Thomas Updike Fosdick ; Gideon Baily was appointed ensign of the same company.

An order of £1,500, in favor of Capt Deshon, was drawn on Prosper Wetmore, Esq., for services and expenses.

The military guard, stationed at Fairfield, was placed under the direction of Gen. Silliman, with the advice of the civil authority of said town, as to the particular place where said guards should do duty ; and the selectmen of said town were authorized to draw on Doolittle & Co., for such quantity of cannon powder, &c., as they thought necessary, for the cannon, &c., in said Fairfield ; and Gen. Silliman, with the advice aforesaid, was empowered to use the cannon, &c., in said town, at his discretion.

#### IN SESSION, March 11.

£20 was allowed to Jesse Brown, post to Gen. Washington and Congress, who rode to Connecticut ; charged the continent.

David Strong was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Solomon Strong's company, in Col. Bradley's regiment, instead of Lieut. Banks ; Ebenezer Olmsted, appointed 2d lieutenant, in Capt. Sanford's company, in said Bradley's regiment, instead of T. Weed, resigned.

It was voted, to raise a company of artillery, of 32 men, to be stationed at Fairfield, properly officered, and John Greenell was appointed captain of said company ; and Gen. Silliman was empowered to appoint a lieutenant for said company.

Whereas the quota of troops from Connecticut, were greatly needed to join Maj. Gen. Spencer's division of the army, at Rhode Island,

and the more eastern regiments in the State had been frequently called into service, &c., and were (then) returning with a great appearance of the British ships and troops off New London, &c.; it was thought advisable, and the Governor and Council did order that six companies should be detached, of 86 privates in each company, properly officered, for said purpose, viz. : to detach one company from the 11th regiment; one from the 18th regiment; two from the 19th regiment; one from the 21st regiment; and from the 22d regiment one company. Each company to be commanded by 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 ensign, appointed by the field officers of said regiment, accoutered and marched to Providence, under the command of Maj. John Ripley, and put themselves under the commanding officers at Providence, until the 1st day of May, 1777, unless sooner discharged. Such as were drafted for this expedition, were to be excused from further drafts, until the remainder of their companies had been drafted.

Jacob Griffin was permitted to carry 4 hogsheads of New England rum to the State of New York, for the use of the inhabitants of the State.

Isaac Turner was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. R. Lewis' company, in Col. Webb's regiment.

#### IN SESSION, March 14.

Jonathan Sled was appointed ensign in Capt. Beardslee's company, in Col. Swift's regiment; Jonathan Moore, ensign in Capt. Chapman's company, same regiment; Adino Hale, ensign in Theodore Woodbridge's company, same regiment.

Col. Andrew Morehouse was permitted to purchase 2 hogsheads of West India rum, and 2 hogsheads of sugar, and transport them to the State of New York, for the use of the inhabitants of that State.

Capt. Vine Elderkin, and his subalterns and company, in Col. Swift's regiment, were arranged as at first; and Capt. John Mills annexed to Col. John Chandler's regiment, instead of Capt. Elderkin and his company.

Capt. Michael Melally was dismissed from the ship Oliver Cromwell, on his own request.

Gen. Sullivan came before the Governor and Council in the afternoon, with important letters from Gen. Washington, concerning another supply of militia, and the state of his army—which was considered.

Mr. Kirtland appeared before the Governor and Council, and had with him a number of Indian warriors from Onieda, and held a long conversation about the Indians.

IN SESSION, March 15.

Aaron Butler was appointed ensign in Capt. Barnard's company, in Col. Wyllys' regiment.

£25 was voted in favor of the Rev. Samuel Kirtland, to bear his expenses through this State to Gen. Washington.

Mr. Kirtland again came in before the Governor and Council with six warriors, from the Six Nations, viz. : Kayendalongueva ; A Chosen Free Williamko, (head warrior) ; Thaghnegtotis, (pine splinter) ; Hendrake, (the second warrior) ; Shalesago, (blazing spear) ; Quedel, alais (Peter) ; Yeghlegtitz, (Joseph) ; Thaghlaghquisene, (William) ; Yolonghyagewea, (clear sky), who were travelling through the States for information regarding the war, and report to the Six Nations ; the forepart of the day was principally spent in delivering to them a speech and belt, and hearing their answer ; when a gun, gun lock, belt, and strings were delivered them in token of friendship. The gun and lock was manufactured in Connecticut, and given as a specimen of American workmanship.

A letter from a great house in France, to the Governor, was read, offering supplies to this country ; and the Governor and Council appeared much pleased.

IN SESSION, March 17.

One ton of flax was permitted to be purchased in Fairfield county, to be carried to New Braintree, in Massachusetts, to be made into clothes for the continental army.

Gen. Parsons, Col. Bradley, and Lieut. Col. Dimon were present, and spent considerable time with the Governor and Council in arranging officers, &c., and exchanging some subalterns from one place to another.

Tolland had an order for 100 pounds of powder, for town stock.

A proclamation to several regiments to detach men to go to Peekskill, by a requisition of Gen. Washington, was issued by the Governor.

IN SESSION, March 18.

Ebenezer Gray was appointed major in Col. Douglass' regiment, in the continental service, in the place of Isaac Sherman.

The Governor wrote a letter to the Committee of War, in Massachusetts, to supply Gen. Parsons with proper medicine, for the purpose of inoculation for the small pox.

A letter from Capt. Harding was before the Governor and Council, asking advice as to allowing Cornelius Dunham, of the brig Defence, who was wounded in the battle in Boston Bay, (and was at home lame

at the time of a cruise afterwards,) his share of the prize money, and his wages, while he was disabled to serve, by reason of his wound; which was ordered to be allowed by the Governor and Council.

Little progress was made in filling the continental battalions ordered raised in the State, though it was deemed of vast importance that the troops should be immediately raised, and that no exertions should be spared in doing it, as from all appearances it was at least probable that should the United States freely exert themselves at that time, and a few months longer the war might be brought to a close, and peace restored to the country. The States had gained many advantages over the enemy, which ought to encourage the people of the States to exert themselves in defence of their just rights, and in filling said battalions for that purpose. It was therefore voted to ascertain the quota of each town to fill said battalions; and it was ordered, that the civil authority, selectmen, and military officers, and all friends to the liberties of mankind, should be requested and exhorted to exert themselves to their utmost, and that immediately, as they regarded the welfare and salvation of their country, in encouraging and procuring the quotas of their respective towns to engage in said service, and encourage such enlistments; and lest some might be embarrassed in leaving their families unprovided for in their absence, it was earnestly recommended to the towns to engage and promise such soldiers as would enter said service, that their families should be supplied with all necessaries at the price fixed by law; and that each town should appoint a committee to see them provided for, on such soldiers lodging or remitting money for that purpose, without any additional expense to said soldiers. Such committees were accordingly ordered, with directions to adhere strictly to the law regulating prices, and to exert themselves to have their quotas of the continental army immediately completed, as the personal security, liberty, and happiness of every individual was deeply concerned, and freedom or bondage secured and entailed to all posterity by the issue of the struggle. And every person in their several capacities were called to a vigorous exertion for the defence and security of their country. It was most earnestly recommended to all her virtuous sons, without delay, to offer themselves for the service of God and their country, in the righteous cause, and to prevent the disagreeable necessity of the frequent rotation of the men from the militia, whereby the husbandry and manufacturers were so much injured. And the Governor was desired to issue his orders, of the import aforesaid.

A letter was written Capt. Coit, to come directly to Lebanon, and bring in his account for settlement.

The committee of prisoners, at Windham, were ordered to collect



and send, in some safe way, all the prisoners at Windham, (that were taken by Commodore Hopkins,) who desired to be exchanged, and deliver them to the care of Mr. N. Shaw, Jr., at New London, to be exchanged ; first taking care that any officers among them pay or draw their bills for their expenses and charge of support, and keep an account of the expense of the whole.

IN SESSION, March 19.

Letters were received from Gen. Silliman, respecting the alarming situation of their affairs, &c., by attacks of the enemy, &c.

The blankets that had been ordered by the General Assembly, to be provided by the towns for the use of the public, were ordered by the Governor and Council, to be delivered for the use of the continental soldiers of the towns, to the commanding officers of said troops, in this State ; and all the fire arms, blankets, &c., belonging to the towns or the public, within said towns, that had been delivered to the soldiers on short marches or tours of duty, to collect and repair, and when repaired, delivered to such commanding officers or colonels, as had the charge of troops in this State.

Gen. Silliman was desired to purchase for the State, 30 tons of flax, which he had notified the Governor and Council he could procure.

IN SESSION, March 20.

A requisition from Gen. Washington, dated March 6, 1777, pressing and earnestly calling for one more exertion of the public spirit of Connecticut, by another supply of 2,000 troops of the militia, to be immediately marched to Peekskill, in the State of New York, and there to wait further orders ; to continue in service six weeks after their arrival at Peekskill. The requisition was grounded on reasons of very great, interesting, and irresistible weight and importance, such as would justify themselves to every friend of his country, of all ranks ; though the particular reasons and design could not, with propriety, be disclosed at that time. The Governor and Council, took said requisition into secret and serious consideration, and judged the same to be of too great and interesting a nature to either be delayed or neglected. The strange and unhappy delay of filling our quota of the continental army, and the expiration of the term of four battalions, rendered this measure indispensably necessary. Though the Board were not unmindful of the difficulties which might be occasioned by calling away so many men, at that busy season of the year ; yet they considered the unspeakable importance of the cause ; that the burden lay equally on all the States ; that the contest in all probability would be short, if the people



would be true to themselves; that the war would have been closed even before that time, if our exertions had been equal to the strength which God had given the country for defence; that the blessings contended for were what the Almighty had bestowed upon us, with full confidence he would continue our faithful endeavors; that the future generations would be established in the best and highest civil and religious liberty, or bound by the most galling yoke of wretched slavery, according to our conduct and exertions for liberty for a very short time longer; and that in the highest probability had the army been once filled, the country would have had no further occasion to have called for the militia, but could have made an effectual stand against all the efforts of the enemy, with a fair prospect of a speedy termination of the war. Under these circumstances, it was most reasonably expected, that no friend of his country would grudge so short an exertion as was required by Gen. Washington:—Therefore the commanding officers of ten regiments were commanded, forthwith, to cause to be detached out of their regiments, in proportion, from the several companies and rolls to the number of 2,000 men in the whole, unless said number should turn out and voluntarily enlist for said service, which they were earnestly solicited to do, and supply themselves, as far as possible, with arms, &c., and such as should be deficient in arms, &c., to be supplied by the authority and selectmen of said towns, either by impressing or otherwise; and men were called upon to turn out their guns, &c. freely for this sudden and important service, and that justice should be done them for it in every respect. The men were ordered to be formed into companies, by the field officers of the regiments to which they belonged, and march to Peekskill, without delay, under the command of such militia officers as should be selected by said field officers; with 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 ensign for each company; formed into three regiments of equal numbers, and of the most convenient companies, and under field officers selected by the Governor and Council; conditioned that those who had not had the small pox, should not be exposed to it by going farther than Peekskill, (where it did not prevail,) &c.

Letters of instruction to the field officers of the ten regiments for drafting 2,000 men, to march to Peekskill, agreeable to the earnest request of Gen. Washington, were sent them.

Gen. Wadsworth was appointed to command said ten regiments as brigadier general.

The 1st reg't.	Col. Wylls,	2 companies of 96 men each,	192 men.
6th do.	" Belden,	1½ do.	" " 144 "
10th do.	" M. Cook,	3 do.	" " 288 "
13th do.	" Mosely,	2½ do.	" " 240 "
14th do.	" Burrall,	1½ do.	" " 144 "
15th do.	" Hooker,	2 do.	" " 192 "
16th do.	" P. Cook,	2 do.	" " 192 "
17th do.	" O. Wolcott,	2 do.	" " 192 "
18th do.	" Humphrey,	2 do.	" " 192 "
23d do.	" Sage,	1½ do.	" " 144 "
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10 regiments,		20 companies,	1,920 men
Four commissioned officers to each company,			80
		<hr/>	
		2,000 men	

The 1st regiment	2 companies,	} Thomas Belden, colonel. Seth Smith, lieutenant colonel. Nathaniel Brown, major.
6th do.	1½ do.	
18th do.	2 do.	
23d do.	1½ do.	
<hr/>		
7 companies.		

The 13th regiment	2½ companies,	} Increase Mosely, colonel. Joshua Porter, lieut. colonel. Jethro Hatch, major.
14th do.	1½ do.	
16th do.	2 do.	
<hr/>		
6 companies.		

The 10th regiment	3 companies,	} Noadiah Hooker, colonel. Epaphras Sheldon, lieut. colonel. Gad Stanly, major.
15th do.	2 do.	
17th do.	2 do.	
<hr/>		
7 companies.		

The above are the detachments regimented.

A letter from a large number of men in Farmington, concerning the tories there, was received.

An order was given to N. Miner, Esq., to purchase or seize 10,000 pounds of cheese, in Stonington, for the State. Capt. Nathan Palmer, of Stonington, was directed to purchase 20,000 weight of cheese to supply the State troops, at the price fixed by law ; provided he should be unable to purchase the same, and found in the hands of any person,

more than was sufficient for their family's use, he was authorized to seize and take the same for the purpose aforesaid, and pay them the price fixed by law, and make report of his doings.

IN SESSION, March 21.

Commissions were filled for officers of alarm list, for Col's. Danielson's, Chapman's, and Lattimer's regiments.

Despatched orders to the selectmen of all the towns, to encourage the raising of the army, &c.

Mr. Erkelens who had been sent for, came in and consulted with the Governor and Council about addressing Mr. DeCapelle, &c.

IN SESSION, March 22.

A letter was sent by Mr. Bennet, to Gen. Washington, informing him that his request as to the 2,000 militia had been complied with; and that the troops had been assured that they should not be sent into Jersey, if there should be any danger of taking the small pox, &c.

Phineas Carey, Solomon Lord, Eleazer Welsh, Ely Spafford, Samuel Stoddard, Hezekiah Abbe, Arad Simons, of Windham, and Thomas Holbrook, of Lebanon, were released from the ship Oliver Cromwell; their wages were to cease at the time of their leaving the ship, on furlough.

John Winthrop, Esq., of New London, asked permission of the Governor and Council for his workmen and tenants on Fisher's Island, to be permitted to pass from town to town on the main, to procure necessities, &c. The Governor and Council authorized the selectmen of New London to permit said tenants, &c., to pass and repass to and from said island to the main, for necessities, to visit their families, as they should think proper under such cautions, limitations, &c.; to prevent any intelligence being given to the enemy, a written pass was to be given said tenants.

IN SESSION, March 25.

Letters were sent to Col. Davenport in answer to his, concerning tories, and troops for defence, he was referred to Gen. Silliman; and referred to Capt. Isaac Miles concerning armed vessels to cruise in the sound; to Capt. Squire to supply said armed vessels with provisions, and to Gen. Silliman as to fixing said armed vessels, and supplying troops for Stamford.

An order was given Doolittle & Co. to deliver the selectmen of Stamford, 600 pounds of powder, and to the overseers of the furnace, to deliver them thirty 6 pound shot, thirty 3 pound, and thirty 2 pound round shot, for Stamford; and to Fairfield, one 6 pound and one 3

pound cannon ; and to Lieut. Hawley, of Stratford, one 6 pound and one 3 pound cannon, for the defence of Stratford harbor, with round shot for each cannon.

Gen. Wadsworth declined marching with the 2,000 troops to Peekskill ; and orders were sent to Gen. E. Wolcott, to march in his stead.

David Webb, of Stamford, a commissary, was directed to purchase what shoes, stockings, felt hats, and homemade cloth, linen and woolen, rum, cheese, and spirits he could, in Fairfield county, and send his account to the Governor.

Joseph Hait, Jr. and Benjamin Hoit, confined in Fairfield gaol as Tories, were ordered to be released, by letter to Sheriff Burr, on payment of cost.

The pay table were directed to adjust the accounts of bounty, wages, billeting, mileage, and rations of Col. Ely's regiment, and Capt. Sanford Kingsbury's company, of Col. Enos' regiment, (then) lately in service at Providence, in Rhode Island, and draw on the Treasurer for the balances.

IN SESSION, March 26.

Roger Fanning, who had the care of the row galley Shark, in the Hudson river, from the 29th of October, 1776, to the 18th of December, as master ; and as keeper, from the 18th of December, 1776, to the 15th February, 1777, was allowed £22 : 11 : 1, for rations, &c.

Jonathan Fitch, commissary, was directed to purchase all the shoes, stockings, felt hats homemade cloth, linen or woolen, rum, cheese, and spirits he could, in the county of New Haven, and send his account of all such purchases to the Governor, &c.

John Tilton, of the Vineyard, was permitted to purchase 1,000 pounds of flax, and 200 pounds of flour, and carry it out of the State, as he had brought for Col. Fitch 300 pair of stockings.

Nathaniel Wales, Esq., was allowed £118, for paying teams from Windham to transport nine cannon to Canaan, on their way to Albany, for Col. Stewart.

Capt. Nathan Palmer seized 11,618 pounds of cheese, per order of the Governor and Council, the property of Church & Hakes, at 6d. per pound, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. commissions, being £294 : 16 : 6, cheese sent to Norwich ; also for services about the fort at Stonington, £15 : 7 : 6.

IN SESSION, April 2.

An order for 400 pounds of powder, on Elderkin & Wales, for Saybrook, was delivered to Charles Pomeroy.

Letters from Mr. Hosmer and Col. Sage, enquiring whether the

miners and Long Island refugees were subject to drafts. The Governor and Council decided in the negative.

Col. Mosely moved to be excused from going to Peekskill—was not excused.

Absalom Russell was appointed surgeon in Col. C. Webb's regiment; Peter Robertson was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Hinkley's company, in Col. C. Webb's regiment.

Col. Waters, engineer at New London, gave a full account of the state of affairs at New London.

#### IN SESSION, April 3.

Maj. John Ripley, commander of the Connecticut militia, (then) lately at Providence, and was appointed to take the charge of the five companies more lately sent there, as major.

Liberty was given to Thomas Allen, to return from Windham to New London.

Hezekiah Tracy, Jr., was appointed 2d lieutenant in Col. Huntington's regiment, in place of Joshua Tracy, deceased, of small pox.

Albigence Waldo was appointed surgeon in Col. J. Huntington's regiment.

Thomas Gray was appointed surgeon's mate in Col. Durkee's regiment.

Thirty-six shillings was allowed Col. Huntington for a *curious* gun lock, which the Governor gave to an Indian warrior, of Oníeda.

Allowed Col. Elderkin \$23 for a finished gun, presented by the Governor to the warrior Indians, by Mr. Kirtland.

John Shipman, Esq., represented the conduct of Mr. Hayden suspicious. Capt's. Huntington, Backus, and Jabez Perkins, of Norwich, were appointed to adjust the accounts of Hayden & Williams for services, &c., in building the Oliver Cromwell.

John Shipman was appointed lieutenant and commandant of the fort at Saybrook, in place of Lee Lay, resigned.

The Council approved of the Governor's sending £1,000 of the continental dollars, to Gen. Spencer.

£800 continental money was ordered to be paid to Andrew Huntington, by David Trumbull, to purchase clothing for the army.

John Murray, Jr., was permitted to purchase a horse and some sugars in this State, for £200, and transport it to Long Island, for a quantity of linen, checks, and flax, he brought from said island.

Josiah Waters, Jr., as engineer, was allowed £180 : 13 : 2 at New London.

James Whelpley was appointed quarter master of Col. Bradley's regiment.

An order was given on Dr. Elderkin, for 100 pair of shoes and 100 pair of stockings, for Col. Durkee's regiment.

Ten Eyke was appointed adjutant of Col. C. Webb's regiment.

IN SESSION, April 4.

Nathaniel Chipman was appointed 2d lieutenant, in Capt. David Parson's company, in place of Timothy White. Charles Stewart, ensign, in Capt. Mills' company. David Barber, ensign, in Capt. Manning's company, in Col. Webb's regiment.

Capt. Jabez Perkins, of Norwich, was directed to receive 300 bushels of salt, (property of the State,) at Norwich Landing, to sell to the inhabitants of this State, not exceeding a half bushel to any family, and in such less proportion as he judged reasonable, at the lawful price, and make his report of sales to the Governor. And on the arrival of any other salt, at said Norwich, (the property of the State,) he was directed to receive it into his store, and dispose of it as the Governor and Council should direct.

Joshua Elderkin was ordered to deliver N. Durkee, Jr., quarter master of Swift's regiment, 223 pair of shoes, and as many pairs of stockings; the same of felt hats, and 223 pair of breeches, for the use of said regiment.

Col. Fitch was directed to deliver to James Whelpley, quarter master of Col. Bradley's regiment, 171 felt hats, 171 pairs of men's shoes, and 171 pairs of stockings for said regiment. Also, James Gray was directed to deliver said Whelpley 124 pairs of breeches, for said regiment, and 12 shirts for the officers of said battalion.

Dr. Joseph Perkins was allowed £5, for amputating instruments, delivered on board the brig Defence.

£1 : 4 : 9 was allowed for medicine supplied Capt. Lyon's company, when sick at Norwich.

Elderkin & Wales were directed to apply to the Hon. James Bowdoin and Council of Massachusetts, to borrow one ton of sulphur, for their powder mill at Windham.

Ten sets of the horse harness, at New Haven, were ordered to be brought to New London, and delivered to N. Shaw, Jr.

Capt. Elijah Backus was ordered to make another cannon, like the one he had made for the public.

Congress ordered raised in the United States, three regiments of artillery men, for continental service, to consist of 2,200 men, which made the proportion of this State 170 men, over and above the battal-

ion of musketry, and a proportion of officers in this State. And Lieut. Col. Oswald of that department, in this State, applied for the same additional premium of £10, for each non-commissioned officer and soldier who should enlist in said service, as had been granted by the General Assembly and by the Governor and Council, to other regiments. The Governor and Council considered it necessary to raise said artillery men, and voted to allow the premium aforesaid; and the pay table were directed to pay Col. E. Oswald the said sum, and taking security for a faithful application of it.

Col. Elderkin was desired to enquire at Boston, &c., for the best model for cannon of 18 pounds or less, and the best method of boring them.

IN SESSION, April 9.

Roger Alden was appointed adjutant, in Col. Bradley's regiment.

Much time was spent in considering how to fill the army.

An order on Doolittle & Co. for 400 pounds of powder was given, to be delivered to Gen. Silliman, for the armed vessels then fitting out by him.

Three dozen shirts for the officers of Col. Webb's regiment, were ordered to be delivered by Doct. Gray, to Qr. Master John Elderkin.

A. Huntington was ordered to deliver A. Wheatly, quarter master of Durkee's regiment, all the hats and knapsacks that were wanted for said regiment.

IN SESSION, April 10.

Elihu Crane's account was referred to the pay table, for carrying a load of flints from Durham to Peekskill, when his team tired in the deep snow.

An order of £4,000 was drawn on the pay table, for Capt. Deshon to import salt, and other necessaries for the State.

Capt. J. Perkins was desired to deliver a barrel of molasses to the civil authority, &c. of Groton, for the continental soldiers under inoculation for small pox there.

Maj. Nathan Gallup was appointed, instead of Luke Perkins, Esq., deceased, to assist to appraise the damage to J. Chester, of Groton, for building forts on his land at Groton.

Jacob Fox was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. John Shumway's company, in place of Joel Gillet, resigned.

Samuel Gray, Esq., was ordered to deliver to Elias Mather, quarter master in Col. William Douglass' regiment, 130 vests, 124 pairs of breeches, and 3 dozen officers' shirts for said regiment.

Doct. S. Gray was directed to deliver Maj. E. Gray and Capt. Nathaniel Webb each, four shirts.

IN SESSION, April 11.

Capt. Abner Bacon was appointed captain in Col. Durkee's regiment, in the place of Capt. Nathaniel Peters, resigned.

Seth Harding, Esq., was appointed captain and commander of the ship Oliver Cromwell, during the will of the General Assembly.

Timothy Parker was appointed 1st lieutenant of the Oliver Cromwell; John Chapman was appointed 2d lieutenant of said ship; John Smith, of East Hartford, was appointed 3d lieutenant of said ship; Capt. Eliphalet Roberts was appointed captain of marines of said ship; John Prentice, 2d, was appointed 1st lieutenant of marines of said ship; Bela Elderkin was appointed 2d lieutenant of marines of said ship; Capt. Josiah Burnham was appointed master of said ship during the pleasure of the Governor and Council. Capt. William Coit was considered discharged on the 14th day of April, 1777. Enlisting orders were given to Capt. Harding, to enlist men for a new cruise of the Oliver Cromwell, to serve until the 14th of October, 1777, unless sooner discharged.

IN SESSION, April 12.

Silas Blodget was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Walbridge's company, in Col. Webb's regiment, in place of John Waterbury, 4th, who was removed into Capt. Hoit's company, in Col. Bradley's regiment.

The Governor and Council sent a letter to Gen. Silliman, instructing him to keep the utmost vigilance over the enemy, who were supposed to be collecting in New York, in order to go up the North river, to destroy the magazines at Danbury, and other places in that quarter, and to raise his brigade for defence, if he thought proper; to give the earliest intelligence to the Governor and Council, of every alarming appearance of danger in his department.

Isaac Hilliard had a permit to carry to Massachusetts, 3,800 pounds of flax, for the inhabitants there. The permit was directed to be endorsed to prevent fraud.

Col. Lattimer, of the 3d regiment, was directed immediately to draft and march 200 men of his regiment, to take post at New London, to take the places of the military companies then there; to serve not exceeding one month, and under such officers of his regiment as he should assign, with himself the chief in command.

The great difficulty that had constantly existed in raising troops, and the frequent calls for new recruits, became perfectly vexatious, and



every method that could be devised to encourage men to enlist was resorted to, to fill up the continental army. A proclamation by the Governor and Council, for the purpose of hastening the raising of the army, was given as follows :

“Whereas notwithstanding the encouragement given by the Continental Congress, and by the General Assembly of this State, and the generous exertions of the towns, and of individuals in the State, in consequence of acts of said Assembly and the Governor and Council, to raise and furnish our quota of the continental army, for the great and unspeakably important purposes of defending all our *property*, our *lives*, and *all the privileges* which render life desirable and secures any of its blessings to *posterity*. The quota or proportion of the army is not yet completed in Connecticut, and the time swiftly approaches and is almost arrived, when, without more vigorous and successful efforts, *all is lost* ; there is, therefore, no more time to spare ; while the great laws of reason, virtue, and self-preservation call aloud for universal attention to this great object, of far greater importance than any other temporal concern. It is, therefore, *once more* most pressingly and earnestly recommended to all whom it may concern, to use every influence and exertion, immediately to fill up the quota of the respective towns, and forthwith to engage in this so greatly important and necessary service, which cannot be longer neglected, without the most imminent hazard of ruin and destruction to this State and continent ; and unless said army be immediately filled, constant rotations of the militia and husbandmen must be called off, which would afford the dismal, certain prospect of being devoured by *famine*. It is then in every view the duty and interest of all, to exert themselves to promote and encourage this great and good work, and of a sufficient number of able and effective men forthwith to undertake for defence of their country, and on the reasonable and generous rewards and encouragements offered them. And they have great reason to rely upon the protection and blessing of *God Almighty*, and to put their trust in him for success in this our righteous cause, though for our manifold sins He is pleased to suffer us to labor under so many delays and difficulties. But the voice and tokens of his Providence now seem clearly to point out, that longer delay would be fatal and destructive to ourselves and all succeeding generations ; and as some are absolutely necessary at home, for many great purposes, as well as to afford necessaries for the subsistence of those abroad ; it is high time, and highly necessary that each should take their several stations ; and that every exertion to which God has enabled us, should be made, as we would do our duty to Him, and save ourselves and country, and avoid the keenest remorse and anguish for

having neglected any means in our power to preserve, and transmit to our children the most precious privileges that ever any people were blessed with."

Therefore, as a reasonable, just, and necessary measure, in the then situation of the public affairs, the Governor and Council recommended and ordered, that the commissioned officers of every company in each town in the State, and field officers who resided therein, should within one day after the receipt of the order, meet together, and find the number wanting in each town, to complete their quota of said army; and when so found, the commissioned and field officers in such towns, should forthwith class all the men of each company, within said town, into as many equal numbers or classes as there were deficiencies in said towns; in so classing were included all persons formed by law into alarm companies, and use their best discretion; and such classes were ordered enrolled and convened by the chief officer thereof, and by said officer called upon, and earnestly invited to freely enlist into said army, and be notified of such classing and divisions, and each of such divisions called upon to turn out, *furnish* or *enlist* one able bodied man into some company of the eight battalions. And in case any such divisions should fail at the end of three days, to enlist or procure a man so to enlist, and give the captain of the company to which he did belong, notice thereof. It was made the duty of such captain, with the advice of his subalterns, without further orders, to draft one able bodied man from each of said divisions, and join them to the nearest company in any of said eight battalions, where needed, and furnished as the enlisted soldiers, and march with them in the same service; and held in said service until the 1st day of January, 1778, unless sooner discharged; to which discharge they were to be entitled by lot, as fast as their places could be filled by enlistment into said army, from the town to which he belonged, or by procuring a fit substitute, with the same wages, &c. as the continental soldiers. The detaching officer was ordered to give the names of those detached, to the captain of the next continental company wanting men; who was authorized to seize and take such detached person or persons, into said company, with a bounty of £3, if said detached persons continued in said service for the term aforesaid, or in proportion for a shorter time, if he voluntarily entered said service (before marching.) And if such detached persons refused to march, they were made liable to the penalty, as was provided in a law, passed December, 1776.

IN SESSION, April 15.

£300 was paid Capt. Nathaniel Saltonstall in advance for his company.

The overseers of the furnace, at Salisbury, were directed, after they had supplied what cannon and shot were ordered to the north, to send the remainder, as well those of Norton & Porter's, as of the State, to Hartford, New Haven, and Fairfield, in such proportions as the Governor should direct ; and to send all the pig iron to Hartford.

IN SESSION, April 17.

It was voted, that the men of any town in the State, who had or should enlist into the continental train band, should be considered as part of the quota of men to be raised in such town for the continental service, not to include more than 170 in all.

Mr. Whiting was allowed 15s. per day, at the furnace, as one of the managers, boarding himself, finding a horse to use about said furnace, and his own fire wood.

Benjamin Henshaw was sent to estimate the cost of building a bridge over the Ousatonic river, in Salisbury, where wanted, for the use of the furnace, and make his report to the Governor and Council.

An order on Isaac Doolittle & Co., for 625 pounds of powder, was given to the selectmen of Waterbury.

An order of £8 : 14, was given John Alden, for carrying \$20,000 to Gen. Knox, per order of Gen. Washington.

An order was given Daniel Strong, for £15 : 16 : 3, for carting a load of clothing to Skeensborough in August, 1776.

Roger Alden was allowed £6 : 18 : 6, for supporting John Beedle and his party, on the 14th of November, 1776, in bringing tory convicts from Stratford.

James Mason, a tory prisoner from New York, was permitted to return to Kingston, in that State.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council, at Norwich, on their way to New London, April 21, 1777, they appointed Dr. Philip Turner, director of the hospital and store of this State, in the continental army ; and then proceeded to New London, and put up with Mr. Shaw.

IN SESSION, April 22.

The Governor and Council examined the hills, &c. about fort Trumbull and at Mamacock, and examined the works at the forts ; then went on board the Oliver Cromwell, and examined said ship ; then proceeded to Groton fort, after which examinations, returned to New London.

The Governor and Council wrote letters to Mr. Elliot, the agent, with respect to prizes in Massachusetts ; and to Capt. Smedley, respecting two prizes he had taken and sent to Boston and Dartmouth.

Capt. Coit (then) late of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, appeared before the Governor and Council, and complained of hard treatment in his dismissal from said ship ; and asked for a committee to settle his and the officers of said ship's accounts ; and Capt. Deshon, Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., and Capt. Joseph Hurlbut were appointed a committee to adjust said accounts against said ship ; the wages of officers, seamen, and marines. And Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, as agent, was directed to attend for the State, to said examination, and act for the State.

Eight additional field pieces, furnished with carriages, were ordered as soon as might be, at or near the fort at New London.

Col. Lattimer, commander of 200 men, ordered for defence at New London, was instructed, with the advice of Col. Waters, engineer, to employ such of said men as were skilful, as might be profitably used in blasting rocks at fort Trumbull, and a suitable number as guards at the fort, and the remainder in carrying on the works at Groton fort.

David Bushnell with Col. Huntington, appeared before the Governor and Council and exhibited a specimen of a new invention for annoying ships, &c., (torpedo) ; the Governor and Council gave him an order on officers, agents, and commissaries to afford him assistance of men, boats, powder, lead, &c., as he might want, delivered him without stint.

Adam Babcock was allowed to purchase of Col. Porter, ten  $\frac{1}{4}$  pound cannon, and six swivels, with shot for them.

#### IN SESSION, April 25.

A letter was received with the information that Capt. Smedley had taken another prize, called the *Grog*, which had arrived at Plymouth. Letters were written to Capt. Smedley, by Mr. Shaw, (who was going there,) and to Watson & Spooner, regarding the three prizes (then)

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#### *Notes on Prizes.*

Samuel Elliot, Jr., in account with the prize brig *Medway*, Boston, November 16, 1778—£3,959 : 9 : 9. Boston, October 7, 1778. The prize brig *Medway*, taken by the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, sold by William Greenleaf for £3,501 : 13. May, 1777. Proceeds of the prize brig *Grog*, so far as was then accounted for, £3,343 : 18 : 4 ; which was afterwards corrected, and amounted to £3,298 : 1 : 8, taken by Capt. Smedley.

Mr. S. Elliot's account of the sales of the prize ships *Admiral Kepple* and *Cyrus*, taken by Capt. Smedley. Account rendered in 1778, by said Elliot, £81,255 : 14 : 5.

Net amount of the sale of the prize *Snow Swift* and her cargo, captured by Capt. Smedley in the brig *Defence*, and account rendered, June 3d, by William Greenleaf, being £5,644 : 9 ; total, £5,717 : 16 : 6. Mr. Elliot's account of the *Snow Swift* being £5,903 : 5 : 6.

Sale of the prize brig *Anna* and her cargo, for the State of Connecticut, taken

lately sent in by Capt. Smedley, &c. ; and appointed said Samuel Smedley, captain of the armed brig Defence, and so informed him.

Letters were received from Gen. Gates, with the information that Gen. Gates had been appointed commander at the northward ; and most earnestly requesting that the eastern troops should be forwarded ; with copies of many letters, shewing the danger they were in. Also requesting Gov. Trumbull to write to Massachusetts and New Hampshire, giving all the information in said letters to those States.

#### IN SESSION, April 26.

Mr. Henshaw applied by letter for a guard about the furnace. A guard of four men was allowed each night, two at a time, of such men as he could trust, to be paid, and under the direction of the overseers.

Letters were sent to Boston and New Hampshire, pressing them to hasten their troops, as had been desired by Gen. Gates.

Letters were sent (by Mr. Alden, prize master,) to Mr. Elliot, agent in Massachusetts, concerning the prizes of Capt. Smedley, and particularly the last at Plymouth. Also to Watson & Spooner, at Plymouth, who had taken care of said prizes.

An order for 16 shirts was given for Capt. Andrew Fitch, Samuel Gray, John White, and Capt. Vine Elderkin.

#### IN SESSION, April 27.

The Governor and Council had received on the evening of the 26th of April, by express, the alarming news from the west, of troops landing at Fairfield, and others going up the North river ; and on the 27th a further account from Col. Huntington, at Danbury, that 18 ships, with troops of the enemy, were then going up the North river near Peekskill. At evening on the 27th, news arrived that Danbury was on fire, and all the stores were taken by the British troops. The Governor

by Capt. Smedley ; the account rendered June 3d, 1777, by William Greenleaf, £2,635 : 9 : 7. By Mr. Elliot, £2,663 : 17 : 1.

Sale of the prize barque Lydia and her cargo, rendered by S. Elliot, Jr., in December, 1777, £6,676 : 13 : 1, taken by Capt. Smedley in the brig Defence, of which William Greenleaf sold at Bedford, £2,829 : 10.

The prize brig Honor and her cargo, was sold for £10,692 : 2 : 4, as accounted by Samuel Elliot, Jr., agent for the State of Connecticut, 1777.

The amount of the sale of the prize ship Cyrus, (taken by the Oliver Cromwell and Defence,) as rendered by William Greenleaf, was £22,561 : 14 : 4.

The sum of £1,981 : 2 : 5 was expended to fit out the brig Defence the first cruise, and until she was fitted out for the second. The sum of £1,852 : 8 : 1 for the second cruise. The sum of £3,254 : 1 : 4 was paid for the the third outfit of the brig Defence, including the wages of seamen, &c.

and Council concluded that Gen. Huntington should go on westward, with full power to order as many militia as he should deem necessary, and hasten the continental troops.

IN Session, April 28.

William Starr, of Goshen, was appointed ensign in Capt. Chapman's company, in Col. Swift's regiment, in the place of David Rusco, resigned.

Thomas Starr, 3d, was appointed ensign in Capt. Woodbridge's company, in Col. Swift's regiment, in place of Adino Hale.

Philemon Hall, of Guilford, was appointed ensign in Capt. Hall's company, in Swift's regiment, instead of Dan Collins.

Samuel Gray was ordered to deliver Lieut. Col. Josiah Starr, all articles of clothing wanted for Col. Swift's regiment.

\$40,000 was ordered to be loaned to the continental pay master for the northern department, by this State.

Samuel Gray was ordered to deliver Lieut. Col. Meigs one dozen officers' shirts and 50 soldiers' shirts, for his regiment.

An order was drawn on Elderkin & Wales for 64 pounds of powder, for Capt. James Chamberlain's company of horse, in the 4th regiment of horse.

The town of Tolland had an order for 250 pounds of powder.

The town of Coventry had an order for 300 pounds of powder.

Bolton had an order on Elderkin & Wales for 150 pounds of powder.

Rev. Ichabod Lewis was appointed chaplain of Col. Bradley's regiment, instead of Isaac Lewis.

Job Smith was appointed pay master in Col. Bradley's regiment, instead of Hezekiah Rogers. Elijah Chapman was promoted to 1st lieutenant in Capt. Childs' company, in said regiment, instead of George Griswold, resigned. Edward Palmer was appointed 2d lieutenant, under Capt. Childs, and Benjamin Converse, ensign, and Gorham, ensign in said company. John Hubbard was appointed ensign in Capt. Lacy's company, in said regiment. Othniel Clark was appointed ensign in Capt. Prior's company in said regiment. Daniel Bradley, ensign in Capt. Hart's company, in place of Cotton Mather, resigned. Cornelius Higgins was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Catlin's company, in said regiment; and Elias Child, ensign in the same company; and William Henshaw, ensign in Capt. Wright's company, same regiment.

IN Session, April 29.

An order was given to furnish Greenwich with four 3 or 4 pound

cannon, and shot in proportion, from Salisbury, in addition to what they had received.

Andrew Huntington was directed to mount two cannon made by Elijah Backus, Esq., on proper, plain field carriages.

Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., of Groton, was directed to find what field carriages were at New London and Groton suitable for field cannon, not mounted ; and to mount six field pieces then on hand, for use at New London and Groton.

Orders were given to the colonels of the eastern regiments, viz. : the 3d, 8th, 20th and 21st regiments, that as the operations of the enemy, and their descent upon the western parts of the State, opened an alarming prospect of their designs to lay waste the New England States, and had already aroused to action a great portion of the militia, west of Connecticut river, to oppose the British in that quarter ; it was considered not improbable that the enemy might suddenly change the place of their operations from the western to the eastern parts of the State, or the neighboring States, which was considered a reason why all should be in immediate preparation to exert themselves on the most sudden alarm. Therefore the said colonels were ordered to give notice to the captains within said regiments, to see their companies immediately furnished, and made ready to march to any place attacked by the enemy, on the shortest notice ; and each town to collect all military stores in some place that would be necessary on such an event or occasion.

#### IN SESSION, April 30.

Mr. Brown, at this date, returned as an express from Congress, and brought a confirmation of the destruction of the stores at Danbury ; and that many houses, &c., had been burnt, and that the enemy were retiring back. Soon after another express from Gen. Silliman, with a letter arrived, which contained the sad news that Gen. Wooster was mortally wounded ; Doct. Atwater, Col. Gould, and others were killed ; and that the enemy had returned on board their ships, after some skirmishes, and several killed on both sides.

An order from Congress was received, to confine Gov. Franklin, without pen, ink, or paper ; and directed him to be conveyed, under guard, by the sheriff of Hartford county, forthwith to Litchfield gaol.

Titus Hosmer, Esq., was directed to deliver to the selectmen of Lebanon, 1,000 pounds of flax, in hands, the property of the State, sent from Fairfield county.

#### IN SESSION, May 4.

Capt. Joshua Huntington, of Norwich, was directed to deliver



100 barrels of continental powder, to Ebenezer Devotion ; 100 barrels to Capt. J. Ripley, of Coventry ; and 100 barrels to David Trumbull, of Lebanon, and provide teams to transport it, and by them to be carefully kept until further orders.

Capt. Jabez Perkins was directed to sell the salt in his hands, to the inhabitants of the State, not exceeding one bushel to any one man.

Orders were given to remove 30 hogsheads of molasses, owned by the State, at Norwich, to the West Farms, Potapaugue, and New Concord, to be deposited there for safety, in the care of Capt. J. Perkins, (who was to remove it.) Capt. Perkins was directed to deliver 40 hogsheads of molasses, to Andrew Huntington, to be distilled for public use.

Gen. Huntington was directed to deliver 1,000 pounds of State powder, to the selectmen of Norwich.

Capt. E. Bill was ordered to deliver to E. Devotion, Esq., of Windham, 10 hogsheads of sugar, and 14 hogsheads of rum, to be stored ; and to deliver Capt. Ripley, of Coventry, 10 hogsheads of sugar, and 15 hogsheads of rum ; and the same of each to David Trumbull, for safe keeping.

The colonels and commanding officers of the 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 21st, 22d and 25th regiments of militia had orders to draft one-fourth part of their said regiments of militia and alarm list, under proper officers, to man the forts at New London and Groton, until relieved by the continental army.

The commanding officers of the continental regiments in this State, were ordered to apply to any civil authority in the State, who were obliged to furnish enlisted soldiers with blankets, who were empowered to grant warrants to proper persons to impress blankets for the use of said soldiers, in their towns where said soldiers belonged, (appraised, &c.)

Brig. Gen. Wadsworth was directed to order one-fourth part of his brigade, properly officered, to march to New Haven, for defence of the coast there ; and to appoint the officers himself.

Brig. Gen. Silliman was directed to order one-fourth part of his brigade to the sea coast, in Fairfield county, under proper officers, by him appointed, for defence of the coast.

Col. Elderkin was directed to procure 6 men and 12 horses, and to go to Portsmouth, and apply to John Langdon, Esq., for six continental brass field pieces in his hands, with the carriages and apparatus, and bring them to this State, as soon as might be, for our defence.

The Governor gave an order on the New Haven powder mill, to deliver the selectmen of Stamford 600 pounds of powder.



## IN SESSION, May 12.

Mr. Shaw was directed to order Capt. Niles to land the provisions on board the Spy, with Deshon and Ledyard as commissaries ; and to give orders to Capt. Niles what goods to bring from Bedford, on her next voyage to that place.

Orders were given to the commanding officers of the forts at New London and Groton, to order the troops drafted from northern companies in Stonington, to march directly to the forts at Stonington, to man that place for defence ; and those drafted from southern companies in said town, to return home, and hold themselves in readiness to serve on the shortest notice, for the defence of those forts.

Capt. Palmer was directed to remove the public stores at Stonington, back in the country to a place of safety.

Andrew Huntington was directed to cause the two guns on ship carriages, at Norwich Landing, to be immediately mounted on field carriages.

Asahel Clark was appointed ensign in Capt. Collins' company, in Col. Bradley's regiment.

Doct. David Howe was appointed surgeon's mate in Col. Chandler's regiment, in continental service.

## IN SESSION, May 14.

Doolittle & Co. were ordered to deliver to the town of Durham, 200 pounds of powder.

## IN SESSION, (at Hartford) May 16.

Bayze Wells was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. Kimball's company, in place of Nathan Parsons, resigned in Col. Chandler's regiment ; Lemuel Hitchcock was appointed 2d lieutenant in the same company.

Theodore Wadsworth was appointed surgeon's mate in Col. Douglass' regiment, in place of Doct. Todd, resigned, (continental service.)

Elijah Hubbard was appointed commissary and superintendent of the stores provided by the State for continental troops.

## IN SESSION, May 19.

Orders were given to Capt. R. Niles, of the schooner Spy, to put the Spy in a condition for a cruise, and to enlist a crew to serve not longer than the 1st of January, 1778—£300 was voted him for public use.

## IN SESSION, May 22.

The overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, were ordered to advance for the State, £50 to aid the building a bridge over the Ousatonic river where needed, for the use of the furnace. Also to mount two 4 or 6 pounders, on field carriages.

Chauncey Whittlesey, Esq. was ordered to procure a warrant, and seize the wheat in the hands of John Birdsey & Sons, in Middletown, for the use of this State, leaving them sufficient for their own use ; and cause the same to be floured as soon as possible, and deliver 50 bushels to the selectmen of Saybrook, for the troops in the fort there, and pay said Birdsey & Sons the lawful price.

Benjamin Henshaw was directed to borrow 100 bushels of salt of Capt. Wadsworth, for the furnace at Salisbury.

Jabez Perkins was directed to send, for the use of the furnace, to Capt. B. Henshaw, 3 hogsheads of molasses, 2 hogsheads of New England rum, 1 hogshead of West India rum, and 1 hogshead of sugar.

Mr. Whittlesey, of Middletown, was directed to supply Capt. Henshaw with what tow cloth and rags he should want for the furnace at Salisbury.

IN SESSION, May 23.

Mr. Wales and B. Huntington were appointed to prepare instructions for the commissaries of supplies in this State ; and the following, in substance, were the instructions to Elijah Hubbard, Esq, as commissary of supplies and refreshments for the troops raised in this State for the continental army. He was directed, without delay, to purchase one good team or wagon with horses, to each regiment, and employ a trusty man for each, and load said teams with rum, sugar, molasses, and clothing, owned by this State, in the hands of such men as he would be informed from time to time, and they directed to deliver to said Hubbard. Informing said Hubbard that at that time there was West India rum and sugar in the hands of Capt. Ephraim Bill ; salt in the hands of Capt. J. Perkins ; New England rum and clothing in the hands of Mr. A. Huntington, of Norwich ; clothing, rum, and sugar in the possession of Capt. J. Elderkin, of Windham ; clothing in the hands of Mr. C. Whittlesey, of Middletown, Col. J. Fitch, of New Haven, Capt. S. Squire, of Fairfield, D. Webb and D. Gray, of Stamford, and Mr. Abel Hine, of New Milford. He was directed to transport and secure such stores in the safest places he could procure, near the continental army ; with an assurance of persons appointed to take care of and oversee the stores about the camp ; and an issuing commissary was appointed for each regiment. He was also empowered to impress teams, boats, &c., as occasion might require, to transport any stores, and employ men to execute the design ; and in cases of danger to advise with the officers of the army, apply for guards, &c. ; to purchase all things needful ; to provide forage and provender

for teams, cattle, and horses, as should be needful and convenient. The assistant and issuing commissaries to apply to said Hubbard for orders, under such directions as he should give for each soldier at each time, and how often. All articles to be delivered at the door of the tent or store, and the receiver to depart for others to be served; and an exact account kept of what was delivered to each soldier, and sent to the pay master of each regiment, and deducted out of their wages when paid. If a regiment should be divided, the issuing commissary to supply them; or in case the divisions are distant, to have a person specially assigned for that service, and keep an account, and send it to the commissary of the regiment. The said Hubbard was directed to keep an account of all expenses made by him, and of money received, and have the same in order for settlement. The troops at Peekskill were then in want, and he was ordered to render them the first assistance; and to see that others were furnished with necessaries, as they should take the field.

IN SESSION, May 28.

The schooner Mifflin, under the command of Capt. Timothy White, with the officers and crew on board, were discharged from the service of this State. And Capt. White was directed to deliver said schooner, and the stores on board, owned by the country, to the agent for the State; and such stores on board as belonged to the State were directed to be delivered to Gen. Silliman, or his order.

Royal Flint, of Windham, was appointed an assistant commissary under Mr. Hubbard, with a captain's pay and rations, while in camp, and necessary expenses paid in lieu of rations when in service out of camp; and necessary horses provided by the State. The pay and rations of the issuing commissaries of supplies, &c., were £9 per month, and two rations per diem.

James Jones, of Middletown, and David Breed, of Norwich, were appointed issuing commissaries of supplies, &c., for the troops from this State, in continental service.

Capt. John Chenevard was allowed £77 : 9 : 1, for one-half the expense of building the yard round the Hartford gaol.

Liberty was given Capt. Smedley to consort with the privateer, owned by Thomas Mumford, Esq. and others, in a cruise, as said Smedley should please.

The Governor sent Capt. Smedley's commission, dated 25th April, 1777, to him at Bedford, and his sailing orders, and three blank commissions for him to fill for subaltern officers, (Leeds, one of his lieutenants being dead.)

IN SESSION, May 30.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. was permitted to purchase of Col. Porter, at Salisbury, six cannon, and pay said Porter.

Jabez Smith was appointed surgeon's mate, in Col. Philip Burr Bradley's regiment, in continental service.

William Little, Jr., of Lebanon, James Davenport, of Stamford, and Ithamar Bingham, were appointed issuing commissaries of supplies, &c. for the Connecticut troops in continental service.

IN SESSION, May 31.

The account of Smith & Coit, for medicine delivered to Dr. Russel, for the army in the northern department, was referred to the pay table, for adjustment.

The overseers of the cannon foundry were directed to sell to Daniel Tyler & Co. three 3 pound cannon, at the usual price.

£1,500 was drawn in favor of E. Ledyard, commissary of the troops at Groton.

Orders were given to Samuel Elliott, Jr., Esq., of Boston, agent for this State, to sell 100 barrels of beef and pork, and 40 firkins of butter, taken in the prize at Plymouth, (by the brig Defence,) to the inhabitants of Plymouth, at the lawful price in Massachusetts.

One-half of the militia at the forts of New London and Groton, were ordered to be drawn off by lot, and dismissed ; and all the militia companies at Stonington dismissed ; and the officers at those posts were directed to execute the same.

Wm. Seymour appointed lieutenant of the artillery company, in Norwalk, and John Ben, lieutenant of the artillery company, at Stamford.

IN SESSION, June 1.

Intelligence was received from Col. Burrall, of the 14th regiment of militia, that an attack was apprehended at Ticonderoga, and that troops were wanted for their assistance ; and the Governor and Council gave Col. Burrall the information that the copy of Gen. Poor's and Gen. Fellows' letters had been received with his ; and ordered Col. Burrall, first, to deduct the overseers, clerk, moulders, firemen, colliers, ore diggers, and such others as were necessarily employed at the cannon foundry, in Salisbury ; and order the residue of the regiment under his command, to be in readiness when called, and to draft one-half of the same by rotation, according to law, with a suitable number of officers ; to see them armed, equipped, &c., with ammunition, knapsacks, &c., and so much provision to carry with them as he should judge necessary ; to send (in the meantime) an express to get intelligence, and when information should be received by said express, to judge for himself whether to march all or a part, as the urgency of the case should require.

## IN SESSION, June 2.

An order was given to the commanding officers of the militia in service at New Haven, to draft 90 men for a company, including officers, from those then in service in New Haven, and appoint the officers ; to remain in service there, until further orders, and to dismiss the remainder of the militia at that post.

Abraham Woodhull, of Long Island, who had been taken on board a vessel in the sound, by the Schuyler sloop-of-war, was permitted, on his parole, that he would neither do or say any thing against the United States, &c., and return to Long Island, and return to Connecticut on request.

Rufus B. Abel was appointed pay master of the regiment commanded by Col. Jedediah Huntington.

## IN SESSION, June 3.

Col. Champion was ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Saybrook, 8 barrels of beef, and 9 barrels of pork, for the use of the troops there.

Capt. Ventriss, commander of the troops at Saybrook, was directed to draw 50 men by lot, from the companies there, with a proportion of officers, and dismiss them ; and those not drawn were to remain, and be formed into one company, until further orders.

A representation was made by Messrs. Peter Vandervort and Richardson Sands, that Thomas Y. Jackson, of New York, taken on board an armed vessel on her way from New York to Rhode Island, by a privateer from Stonington, was desirous of going to Hartford, and take a part with the friends of the country ; that he had ever been esteemed a warm friend of this country, &c. The Governor and Council permitted him to go to Hartford with said R. Sands.

Orders were given to arrest W. Stewart, of New London, for being one of the owners of a vessel taken by the Schuyler, Capt. Hawley, going with provisions (to the enemy) to New York, that he should be examined touching the vessel and cargo.

Orders were given to Capt. W. Ledyard, to procure what necessary artillery stores he could, such as shot, &c., if to be had at the furnace, at the eastward or elsewhere.

Samuel Elliot, Jr., agent for the State, was ordered to deliver to Capt. Niles, of the Spy, two cannon at Dartmouth or Bedford, (the property of this State.)

## IN SESSION, June 4.

Capt. James Latham was directed to unlade the salt and other cargo, on board a vessel then arrived in Boston, and store the same at Boston, and unbend the sails and lay up the vessel until further orders.

The overseers of the furnace were directed to supply all persons who should apply for salt pans, (without interfering with casting cannon,) observing the order of applications, that each should have his turn, to be sold at a reasonable price.

Andrew Adams, John Canfield, and Lynd Lord, Esq's., were a committee to adjust the accounts (of the last blast) of the furnace, with Col. Porter.

John Fitch, of Canterbury, Sylvester Dearing, of Middletown, and Nathan Preston, of Woodbury, were appointed issuing commissaries of supplies, &c., to the continental troops in service.

IN SESSION, June 5.

Col. Meigs sent a letter to the Governor, urging the necessity of pressing teams, and clothing for his men. The Governor was desired by the Council to write to the clothier general, at Boston, for supplies of clothing.

Stephen Betts was appointed captain of a company in Col. Webb's regiment, in the place of Nathaniel Goodwin, deceased. Seth Weed was appointed 1st lieutenant in said company. Silas Bingham, 2d lieutenant, same company, and Isaac Sheeler, ensign of said company.

IN SESSION, June 7.

The balance due Eliphalet Roberts, the late captain of marines of the ship Oliver Cromwell, being £126 : 5 : 2 was paid to Mr. Coit, pay master of said ship.

Isaac Swift was appointed surgeon's mate in Col. Swift's regiment.

IN SESSION, June 9.

The managers of Salisbury furnace were directed to cast for Moses Craft, four salt pans, the larger the better ; and take the pay at 50s. per hundred.

David Lowry was exempted from all military duty while he should be employed in making gun locks.

IN SESSION, June 10.

Benjamin Welles, of Stamford, was appointed an issuing commissary of supplies, &c., for the Connecticut troops in continental service.

Jabez Huntington, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., and Benjamin Huntington, Esq's., were a committee to settle with Capt. Coit' all his accounts relating to the Oliver Cromwell ; the officers and ship's crew, (except the pay and wages of said officers and crew, which had been referred to Capt. Deshon, &c.) Also to settle the accounts of N. Shaw, Esq., against the State, for articles found said ship and crew, and for all his

demands against the State on account of said ship, and his service in every respect.

Three swivel guns, four dozen swivel shot, with a wormer and ladle, at New London, were loaned to Col. Matthew Talcott.

John Fragan, a sargeant in the 55th regiment, a prisoner of war at Hartford, was permitted to go to New York to procure clothing, &c., for the prisoners of war of sundry regiments, upon his parole, to say or do nothing to the prejudice of any of the United States, and to return within 16 days.

Timothy Keyes was authorized to receive of the store keepers of salt, of this State, at Boston, 30 bushels of salt, for the town and county of Westmoreland, (at the price of £15, paid Benjamin Payne.)

Ebenezer Heath, of Willington, certified Jedediah Amidon chosen captain of the 10th company, 22d regiment of militia; and Richard Pearl, lieutenant in said company, which was established by the Governor and Council.

#### IN SESSION, June 11.

Jesse Brown, of Norwich, post rider, was permitted to purchase of James Church, of Hartford, 100 pounds of flax to make him some clothes, at 10d. per pound.

The non-commissioned officers and soldiers raised and stationed on the sea coast, in this State, were permitted to enlist into the two battalions then raising.

Edward Mulford was established an ensign in the 11th military company, 2d regiment of militia.

An order of £758 : 3 : 7 was drawn in favor of Elderkin & Wales, of Windham, for powder.

#### IN SESSION, June 12.

A commission was granted to Mr. Hilliard, of Hartford, who did the duty of captain in Col. S. Whiting's regiment, ordered raised in this State.

The same pay and wages were granted to officers and soldiers in the companies of matross in-service in this State, as was allowed by Congress to officers of equal rank, and privates in the companies of artillery in continental service.

Moses Bull, of Hartford, was permitted, on his parole, to go to Westchester, in the State of New York, to secure his effects there.

The contract of Thomas Bidwell, to manufacture sulphur for the State, was extended for two years, after receiving the materials to work with; and he was allowed for time, expenses, &c., in hindrance, &c., £89 : 11.

The managers of the furnace at Salisbury, were directed to cast for Mr. Thomas Bidwell, as many iron pots and receivers, for the manufacture of sulphur, as he should direct.

IN SESSION, June 13.

The authority, &c., of the town of Killingworth, stated that John Wilcox and James Ward, of that town, who were sent to Willington as enemies to the country, manifested a more friendly feeling, &c. They were permitted, on taking the oath of fidelity, to be released from their confinement, to return home, and remain under the direction of the civil authority and selectmen, &c., of said town.

Commissaries Hubbard and Flint were ordered to purchase 100 tons of flour for their use and at the expense of the State, and cause as much as in their power to be transported to Hartford and other places, as should be directed, by the returning teams employed in transporting refreshments, &c., to the continental army.

The selectmen of Milford were allowed for services about the fort there, £6 : 7 : 6.

William Witter, of Hackensack, in New Jersey, stated to the Governor and Council, that while he was after a doctor for his sick wife, he was taken by the adherents of the King of Great Britain, and compelled to stand upon guard, where he was retaken by our troops and brought to Wethersfield, and held as a prisoner of war, and in poor health, and asked to be discharged ; which was granted, and said Witter discharged.

The commissaries appointed to purchase refreshments in the several counties, reported, that they could not purchase any West India goods for the use of the troops in their respective counties ; and the Board having been informed that there were large quantities of West India goods in the hands of several persons in the counties of Hartford, New Haven, New London, and Windham, desired the Governor to issue warrants to the sheriffs, &c., in said counties, to impress and take from such persons in said counties, in whose hands the same should be found, and deliver the same to Elijah Hubbard, commissary ; and make return of the articles, with the prices limited by law, viz. :

	rum.	sugar.	molasses.	coffee.
In Hartford county,	10 hhds.	20 hhds.	40 hhds.	7,000 lbs.
New Haven county,	4 “	10 “	20 “	3,000 “
New London county,	6 “	10 “	20 “	5,000 “
Windham county,	6 “			10,000 “

Adam Babcock was directed to receive at Bedford, in Massachusetts,



50 barrels of pork and beef, property of this State, for the ship Fanny, in return for articles furnished several privateers, of this State.

George Folliot, of Ridgfield, who was committed to the gaol in Hartford, as a tory, was liberated from said prison, by paying all costs, and taking the oath of fidelity.

The commissaries appointed in the several counties to purchase refreshments for the troops from Connecticut, were directed to purchase for said troops, in their counties, as large quantities in their power as they could find of New England and West India rum, muscovado sugar, molasses, coffee, chocolate, cheese, tobacco, woolen cloths for vests and breeches, linen shirting, tow cloth, shoes, stockings, yarn and linen, felt hats, one pipe of wine, Madeira, Lisbon, or Canara.

IN SESSION, June 20.

£1,500 was paid Andrew Huntington, for the purchase of clothing, and mounting cannon.

IN SESSION, June 21.

Mary Codwise, of New York, had restored to her seven hogsheads of sugar, impressed by Ezekiel Williams, sheriff of Hartford county.

IN SESSION, June 23.

Jabez Clark, of Lebanon, was appointed issuing commissary to the regiment raised in this State for the continental service for three years, or during the war.

The Governor was requested by the Council to sign an order to Samuel Elliot, agent, to deliver Capt. W. Hubbard 20 barrels of beef and pork, in exchange for an equal quantity of pork and beef, to be delivered by Capt. Hubbard, at Norwich, for this State.

The overseers of Salisbury furnace were ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich, each, 100 round shot, to suit their field pieces, and grape shot in proportion.

Ichabod Bosworth, of Lebanon, was appointed 1st lieutenant in Col. J. Ely's regiment, in place of E. West, resigned.

Ebenezer West, of Lebanon, was appointed adjutant of Col. Ely's regiment.

IN SESSION, June 24.

An order was drawn on C. Whittlesey, in favor of Aaron Comstock, quarter master of Col. Chandler's regiment, for 100 flannel shirts for said regiment.

David Holmes, of Woodstock, was appointed surgeon in Col. Chandler's regiment.

IN SESSION, June 25.

George Phillips & Co. were permitted to transport out of this State, 1,000 bushels of rye and corn, to the port of Bedford, in Massachusetts, to purchase salt for the inhabitants of this State.

IN SESSION, June 26.

The Council of Safety of the State of New York applied to this Board, for Dr. Platt Townsend, and the inhabitants of the State of New York, to erect works in this State for manufacturing salt, to be transported out of this State ; which was granted, on condition no State premium should be paid on their salt so manufactured in Connecticut, by this State.

Ralph Isaacs, upon his request, was permitted to leave Wallingford, and reside on his farm at Branford, under the direction of the civil authority, &c., of said Branford, and under the same restrictions as were given him at Eastbury.

John Mulford, Esq., of Long Island, a resident in Stonington, stated to the Governor and Council, that he was infirm, and had no means of support in this State ; that he owned an estate on Long Island, and desired to return with his family to said island. The Governor and Council gave liberty to said Mulford and his wife to return to the island, and to take with them one horse and one cow.

The overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, were ordered to deliver 100 round 4 pound shot, with grape shot in proportion, to the selectmen of Guilford.

The owners of the powder mill at New Haven, were ordered to deliver the selectmen of Guilford, 150 pounds of cannon powder. Gen. Ward received it.

John Cornwell, of New Haven, was permitted to transport from Connecticut to Bedford, &c., in Massachusetts, 7 barrels of pork, 7 of beef, 6 of flour, and 100 pounds of flax, to procure salt for our inhabitants.

John Wells, Jr., of Glastenbury, was allowed to transport, by water, to the port of Dartmouth, in Massachusetts, 30 barrels of pork, 5 barrels of flour ; 10 barrels of pork, and the 5 barrels of flour, to be put on board a boat, James Skiff, master ; and 20 barrels of pork to be laden on board a schooner, Israel Williams, master, to be transported, to procure salt for the inhabitants of Glastenbury.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) June 27.

Duncan Stewart, Esq., collector of customs, at New London, was permitted to remove his family and servants to New York, from New York to proceed to London, and to take with him, a white woman

with two young sons, his furniture, and Dr. Maffatt's, and a milch cow, for the benefit of his children on the passage.

Francis Bayard Winthrop, on board the sloop Union, in New London harbor, (a flag from New York,) was permitted to go from said sloop, by water, to the dwelling house of John Winthrop, and to continue in said house and on Winthrop's Neck, (so called,) until said flag should return; and then return by water from said neck on board the flag.

Duncan Stewart, Esq. was allowed to land from the sloop Union, (a flag) then lying near the light house, at New London, three or six packages of necessaries for sundry persons, under the instructions of the selectmen of New London, and to be disposed of under their inspection.

Mr. Shaw was directed by the Governor and Council, at the request of D. Stewart, Esq., to assist said Stewart to have the sloop Union navigated to the wharf at New London, by some of the people of this State, while those who came in her, should be kept below in some other vessel, until the Union should return to them, with all convenient speed, and said vessel despatched; and if said Stewart should have articles that he could not carry in the Union, that Mr. Shaw should carry them in the next flag he should send, at the expense of said Stewart.

Noah Colman, of Lebanon, was appointed surgeon in Col. Webb's regiment, in the place of Dr. Cogswell, resigned.

#### IN SESSION, June 28.

David Trumbull was desired to procure a wagon or ox team, and proceed immediately to Boston, and transport from Boston, on the most direct road to the army, a quantity of shirts for the use of the soldiers.

The officers of the militia at New London and Groton, under Gen. Tyler, were directed to make their pay roll until the next Wednesday, and on the evening of that day be dismissed from service.

It was ordered, that there should be allowed to each non-commissioned officer and soldier of the militia who had or should be called for the defence of the sea coast or as guards, that in lieu of rations granted by the General Assembly, they should be allowed 1 pound of bread or flour, 12 ounces of pork or 1 pound of beef, and 3 pence 1 farthing per diem, and when sauce could not be supplied by the commissary and in case of a deficiency of any of the articles, to be allowed in the following proportion per week, viz. : deficiency of peas, 3½d. ; butter, 3½d. ; milk, 10½d. ; molasses, 4½d. ; Indian meal, 0½d.

It was resolved, that no fatigue rum should be delivered to the troops stationed at any post in the State, except by a written order from the commanding officer of the post.

An order of £4,000 was drawn in favor of Capt. Deshon.

IN SESSION, June 30.

A letter was sent to Gen. Spencer, to inform him of the movements of the enemy in the Jerseys, and in the northern department, by advice received from Gen. Washington and Gen. Schuyler.

An order was drawn on Gen. Silliman and Thaddeus Burr, in favor of Nathaniel Shaw, for 4 tops of flax.

An order was sent to Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, to send to New Haven all the whale boats, and the armed sloops Schuyler and Mifflin, to cruise off the harbor of New Haven and west of it.

Orders were sent to Capt. Niles, of the Spy, to proceed on a cruise to New Haven, and as far west of it as he should think prudent, and towards Long Island, to annoy the enemy, and give any intelligence or interesting discovery he should make of the designs of the enemy.

A permit was given to Francis Bayard Winthrop, then on board the sloop Union, a flag, near the light house in New London, to go on shore in the day time, to the house of Thomas Harris, near said light house, to visit his mother, brothers, and sisters, under the direction of the commanding officer of the fort, civil authority, and selectmen of New London.

Advice was received from Gen. Schuyler, that the British fleet and army had advanced as far as Crown Point ; and that a strong party had gone by the way of Otter Creek, for the purpose of falling in between Ticonderoga and Skeensborough ; and that another detachment had marched on the west side of lake George, in order, if possible, to cut off fort George, &c., and requested that the militia might be ordered to march as soon as possible to their assistance, and rendezvous either at fort Edward or fort Ann. An order by the Governor was sent to Gen. Oliver Wolcott, stating to him the aforesaid facts ; and that all the continental troops on this side the lakes which occupied the several posts did not exceed 700 men ; that the aid of the militia was required, which he had called upon in the States of New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, to rendezvous at forts Edward and Ann, as soon as might be. Therefore Gen. Wolcott was ordered by the Governor and Council, forthwith to order his brigade, (the 24th regiment excepted,) to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice. Also to draft by rotation one half of said brigade, (said 24th regiment and overseers, &c., at Salisbury furnace excepted,) according to law, with a suitable number of officers ; to see them armed, equipped, furnished with ammunition, blankets, &c., and so much provision as should be

necessary ; and to appoint suitable officers to command them. In the mean time to take care to get intelligence of the state of affairs at the northward, and to act his discretion from such information as he might receive, to order those drafted by rotation, or such other part of his brigade as he should think proper, to march for the assistance of the northern army, or for the relief of any place attacked, either on the North river, or at the northward.

A letter was sent to Gen. Wolcott, informing him that a team would be sent to Litchfield loaded with powder, lead, and flints, and requesting him to send a team to Salisbury for a load of cannon shot, to be forwarded by the returning teams. N. B. 1,700 pounds of gun powder, 2,005 pounds of lead, 1,000 flints, and 300 pounds of cannon powder were sent to Litchfield.

IN SESSION, July 1.

William Redfield, of Middletown, was appointed issuing commissary for the regiment raised in this State for continental service, in the place of James Jones, resigned.

Gamaliel Babcock, of Lebanon, was appointed issuing commissary to the battalions raised in this State for continental service, in the place of Dearing, resigned.

Nathaniel Walker, of Stafford, confessed he deserted from a militia company at New London ; professed penitence for the offence, and asked to be relieved from a prosecution for said desertion. It was shewn he had faithfully served the State before his desertion, and had again enlisted as a soldier in the continental army in Col. Webb's regiment for three years. The Governor and Council ordered said Walker released, by his paying all costs, and joining the regiment in which he had enlisted.

Col. Ely was directed to order Lieut. John Shipman, with 20 men, as a guard at Saybrook, to add 30 men, with an officer ; and to add so many men to the guard at Lyme, under Ensign J. Griswold, as would make the number of 30 men.

Liberty had been given in June, to D. Stewart, Esq., on his way to London, to remove the furniture of Dr. Moffat on board the flag of truce sloop Union, from New London ; but it was represented to the Governor and Council that said Moffat withdrew from this State and had been in arms with the British against us, and by said act his goods were forfeited to the State : Wherefore said permit to remove said goods was recalled, and all said Moffat's goods, estate, and furniture ordered left at New London with the selectmen of the town ; with orders given them to procure a proper process against said goods, &c., and have them condemned as forfeited to this State, if it should be proved that said Moffat had been under arms with the enemy.

Articles of goods had been purchased in New York, by Duncan Stewart, Esq., and brought to New London in the flag of truce Union. It was therefore resolved, that no goods of any kind should be imported from New York, or other place in the possession of the enemy, in flags of truce or otherwise, under a penalty of seizure and confiscation for the use of the State. Any pretended flag of truce to be confiscated, and the captain, and all others on board held as prisoners of war.

Daniel Hinsdale, Jr., of Hartford, was permitted to transport by water to Bedford, or other port in Massachusetts, 8 tons of flour, owned in the State of New York, to be exchanged for salt, and transported to that State for their use.

Ebenezer Barnard, Jr., of Hartford, was also permitted to transport by water, to Massachusetts, 8 tons of Indian corn, rye, or other provision, or flax and lard, for any quantity of salt or sheep's wool he could procure to be imported into this State, from Massachusetts.

If the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the two regiments were unable to furnish themselves with arms, &c., the selectmen of their respective towns were ordered to furnish such of them as needed their aid, with arms, blankets, &c.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon) July 2.

Joseph Torry, of Killingly, was permitted to carry to Massachusetts, 6 firkins of butter to exchange for salt, for the inhabitants of said Killingly.

Daniel Brush, of Long Island, a prisoner of war in this State, was permitted to go at large in the State, on his parole.

An order was drawn in favor of William Lase, of Norwich, for £200, and charged to him.

Eliphalet Smith, Alexander Furever, and Stephen Woodhull, all of Long Island, and prisoners of war, at New Haven, were released from confinement on parole, so that they might be present at the trial of the capture of the sloop in which they were taken.

An order was given to Benjamin Payne, Esq., to cause the goods taken from Peleg Hyde, to be appraised, and held for the use of the State.

John Pride, of Poughkeepsie, New York, was permitted to carry by land, from this State, to the State of New York, 30 bushels of salt and 300 pounds of sugar.

John Click, of Simsbury, was appointed ensign in Capt. Pettibone's company, in Col. Enos' regiment, in place of Benjamin Holcomb, resigned. Charles Goodwin, of New Hartford, was appointed 2d lieutenant in Capt. Abraham Bradley's company, in Col. Enos' regiment.

Samuel Mills, Daniel Hall, and Samuel Rockwell, of Colebrook, were permitted to transport to Massachusetts, three cart loads of flour, to be exchanged for salt, for the use of the inhabitants of said town.

Jedediah Olcott, of Hartford, was permitted to transport to Massachusetts, one cart load of flour, to exchange for salt, for the inhabitants.

IN SESSION, July 3.

Isaac Knight was appointed surgeon, and William Morris, quarter master of a regiment raised for the defence of the sea coast.

The Council of Safety of the State of New York, appointed Obadiah Jones, John Hurlbut, and Thomas Dearing, Esq's., to give permits to such of the refugees from Long Island as resided in Connecticut as they should think proper and prudent to pass to Long Island, to get their effects, and to other islands in said State, (except Fisher's Island,) which was consented to by the Governor and Council.

Obadiah Jones, Esq., was desired to furnish the civil authority, selectmen, &c., of the several towns in this State, in which any refugees from Long Island resided, with a vote of the Governor and Council on the subject.

An order was drawn on Capt. Ephraim Bill, Prosper Wetmore, and Andrew Huntington, in favor of Gamaliel Babcock, an issuing commissary, for any quantity of rum, sugar, pepper, coffee, and rice in his custody.

Gov. Trumbull sent an order to Brig. Gen. Ward, and informed him that he had been advised that the enemy had advanced from Canada as far as Crown Point, and were preparing to attack our army at Ticonderoga. Also informed him that Gen. Howe was leaving New Jersey with the grand army, and preparing to fall upon other places, and advised him of the necessity of being prepared for all events; and therefore directed him to apply for powder and balls, to be formed into cartridges of ten in a bunch, with the same number of balls, place them in tight boxes, and the boxes numbered, to be kept in his care 25,000 cartridges, and to send the remainder to Durham, to the care of Maj. Gen. Wadsworth. (An order was given for 1 ton of balls and 700 pounds of powder to Gen. Ward.)

Maj. Elias Buel was directed to repair with the troops, (then on their march) directly to New London barracks, to garrison the fort there, and to take the command in the absence of his superior officer, to discipline his men, and carry on the works, (of erecting the fortifications,) under the direction of the engineer; and to apply to Capt. Deshon for needful provisions.



IN SESSION, July 4.

Col. J. Fitch was appointed commissary to purchase necessary provisions for the regiment raised, in this State under Col. Enos, and to see that the officers and soldiers were duly served with their rations.

George Allen and Andrew Angell, of Scituate, in Rhode Island, were permitted to export from this State, to said Scituate, 100 bushels of Indian corn, 6 barrels of flour, 500 pounds of cheese, and 6 bushels of beans, to aid them in their tavern.

An order was drawn on Capt. Jabez Huntington, to deliver Gamaliel Babcock, 2,000 pounds of coffee, for commissary Hubbard.

Orders were sent to Capt. J. Perkins, of Norwich, to receive of Reuben Barnard, John Russell, and Reuben Giles, of Nantucket, a quantity of rum, molasses, salt, and oil, at the price fixed by law ; and to deliver them in exchange, provisions, at rated legal prices, for the use of this State.

Isaac Day, of Torrington, was appointed surgeon's mate in the regiment of Col. Webb.

It was directed that no board wages, when suitable provision had been made, should be allowed to the officers and men on board the ship Oliver Cromwell, in the settlement of their accounts, antecedent to the 14th day of April, 1777, unless such officer, &c., was so sick, as that his continuance would have endangered his life, or the health of others on board said ship. Capt. Coit was ordered to render an account of the arms, provisions, stores, &c., on board said ship while he had her command.

Joseph Raymond was permitted to pass to Long Island on his parole, to return within eighteen days.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) July 5.

Brig. Gen. Silliman was directed to cause a sufficient number of cartridges immediately made and put in boxes, with a mark of the ball in each box, and deposit them in some safe place, to be used on direction ; to be made of the public powder in his hands. And to order his brigade to stand equipped and in readiness to march at the shortest notice, in such detachments as the exigency should require, in case of an attack or an approach of the enemy in his neighborhood, or up the North river, at his discretion.

Gen. Erastus Wolcott was ordered to procure of Col. Pitkin 350 pounds of gun powder, and 1,000 pounds of musket ball, of Tho's Danforth, and cause the same to be made into cartridges, of ten in a bunch, and numbered with the number of balls each size required to make one pound, and put them in tight boxes and numbered, and deposit them



in some safe place, to be ready on any emergency. Also, to order one-fourth of his brigade to be drafted and equipped, with suitable officers appointed, and hold them in readiness to march on the shortest notice.

Orders were also sent to Gen. Ward, to draft one-fourth part of his brigade, and order them armed and equipped, and to hold them in constant readiness to march on the shortest notice, with proper officers thereto appointed.

Orders were sent to Col. Ely, to call the remainder of his regiment to New London, and make a return of the number, as soon as possible.

Orders were sent to Col. Enos, to draw the remaining part of his regiment to New Haven, as quick as possible, and to make a return of the number, for further orders.

Orders were sent Brig. Gen. Tyler, to apply to Maj. Gen. Huntington for 1,000 pounds of lead, and 350 pounds of gun powder, to be made into cartridges, as was directed in an order to Gen. Wolcott, and similar orders as to drafting a part of his brigade.

Orders were sent to Brig. Gen. Douglass, to apply to Capt. Eaton, of Plainfield, for 770 pounds of musket balls, and powder sufficient to make them into cartridges, as directed in the order to Gen. Wolcott ; and orders to draft a part of his brigade.

Received a letter from Col. John Fitch respecting the purchasing provisions for Col. Enos' regiment, and returned an answer, with orders to send a person to the northward to make purchases, per Samuel Thatcher.

Capt. William Coit, the late commander of the ship Oliver Cromwell, who had applied to the Governor and Council for the settlement of the said ship's accounts, when under his command, which for reasons had failed. It was at this time agreed and voted by the Board, that Capt. Nathaniel Perkins, Jabez Perkins, and William Hubbard, of Norwich, should be a committee with full power to examine and adjust said Coit's accounts against said ship until a final settlement should be had, as well as his reasonable account of all provisions, utensils, and stores, of every kind, procured and delivered to his care, while in said command, as well as the accounts that might be exhibited in behalf of the State, including every matter, whether disputed or not, that might be laid before said committee; who had full power to hear and determine the same, at such time and place as they should appoint, and report the result to the Governor and Council, which was agreed should be binding and conclusive, as well upon the State as upon said Coit in the fullest sense.

William Hillhouse exhibited an account of money paid the commit-

tee for appraising land at Groton fort, for his time and expenses, being £4 : 6 : 9, which was allowed, and an order drawn for said sum.

Samuel Elliot, Jr., of Boston, agent for Connecticut, was directed to sell all the flour and butter brought in the several vessels taken by Capt. Smedley, in the armed brig Defence, of this State, then at Boston, with orders to give notice of the sale, to the Board of War there, that they might have an opportunity to purchase, if they wished ; and was desired to transmit to the Governor an account of the articles not disposed of, under his care at Boston, Plymouth, and Dartmouth, and of the disposal of the property made, and the delivery on the orders sent him by this State.

IN SESSION, July 7.

A letter was sent to Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., of Boston, with directions as to the action of the Governor and Council on the 5th of July.

An order was given, July 6th, to Capt. John Deshon, to receive of Mr. Elijah Hubbard, of Middletown, flour, if he had purchased any.

An order was made, July 6th, on Mr. Peter Goodrich, to Capt. Deshon, for bread and flour on hand.

On the memorial of Michael Judah, of Norwalk, he shewed that two hogsheads and one tierce of brown sugar, owned by him, on board a boat in Milford harbor, which in transporting from Rocky Hill to Norwalk for the inhabitants of Norwalk, was seized by a warrant signed by the Governor. The said Judah was permitted by the Governor and Council to proceed to Norwalk with his sugar, the seizure notwithstanding.

A letter was sent to Capt. Cockran, of Saybrook, to purchase flour and meat, in the best manner he could, and to apply to the pay table for money.

Gen. Silliman was directed to procure an exchange of some of our prisoners, who had been taken at Middlesex, in March, 1777, for some of the enemy's prisoners that were taken in the expedition to Danbury. He was also directed to permit Jane Mape, a single woman, a milliner of New York, to pass to New York on her parole, and to return when required by the commander-in-chief.

The Governor and Council directed that the following orders should be given by the commander-in-chief to Col. Roger Enos, of the 1st regiment of troops, ordered raised for the defence of this State, viz. : " On consideration of intelligence received from Brig. Gen. Silliman since my last orders to you, dated the 5th inst., I have thought fit, by advice of Council, to alter those orders ; and you are hereby directed to order Capt. Edward Rogers and Capt. Reuben Scofield, to collect and march

their companies to the town of Greenwich. Capt. Abraham Bradley to collect and march his company to the town of Stamford. Capt. Reuben Bostwick to collect and march his company to the town of Milford, and Capt. Stephen Thorp to collect and march his company to Fairfield. The companies commanded by Captains Abel Pettibone, James Peck, and Peter Curtiss, you will order to be collected and marched to New Haven, leaving those marched in consequence of my first order, to remain in service according to the direction thus given until further orders. Where any company is not full, you will order a recruiting officer to be left to enlist men until the 15th inst. ; you will then make a return of your regiment to me, with every circumstance attending it. I am informed that the men who were on duty at the time of enlisting, left their duty by leave from their officer, until the 15th of July, which was rather weakening than strengthening our defence. All ought to remain in, or go on duty as soon as directed. You will direct your lieutenant colonel and major to repair to such post or town where the men are ordered, to take the command in your absence. The men are to be employed according to such orders as have been given, and to guard and defend the places where they are ; both you and they will obey such orders as you may receive from any general officer for the defence of this State, either within the same or on its borders.

“ Given in Lebanon, the 7th day of July, 1777.

“ JONATHAN TRUMBULL.”

(Copy sent by Capt. Harper.)

Capt. Peck's company of militia that was posted at Burwell's farms, at Milford, was ordered dismissed on the arrival of Capt. Bostwick's company, of Col. Enos' regiment, ordered to that post.

The overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, were ordered to deliver to the selectmen of Milford, fifty 4 pound shot, thirty 6 pound shot, and one hundred pounds of grape shot, and take their receipt.

Zelotes Sanders, who was drafted by Capt. Edward Shipman, of Saybrook, to fill the continental battalions in this State, by reason of lameness and infirmity of body, and being unable to perform camp duty, was discharged from service.

IN SESSION, July 8.

It was voted, that the overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, should supply Andrew Rowland with ten 3 or 4 pound cannon, as he should choose ; also two swivel guns, (if any to be spared,) in lieu of the cannon and swivels, he received an order for, on the 4th of November, 1776, and to receive the pay for the same.

Directions were sent to Mr. Thaddeus Burr, to purchase a sufficient quantity of tow shirts and trowsers to be sent to the prisoners in New York, who belonged to this State, to be delivered to those who were the most needy, and an account taken to whom delivered. Sent by Dudley Baldwin, July 8.

Directions were sent to Capt. Niles, in answer to his letter of the 3d of (inst.) July, regarding some prisoners, viz. : to send Alexander Clark to the care of General Silliman ; Ephraim Betts and Joseph Waterbury to Hartford gaol ; John Curry and John Casey to remain on board the Spy until her return to New London, then to deliver said Curry to Mr. Shaw, and said Casey to remain on board until his circumstances should be further known, and if an opportunity should present, he was at liberty to send to Setocket for their clothes and money. The letter was delivered Mr. Baldwin, July 8.

Israel Newton was appointed captain ; Zebulon Waterman, lieutenant ; and Jesse Billings, ensign of the 5th company, 25th regiment of militia in this State.

Job Yorle was appointed lieutenant, and Lucius Tuttle ensign of the 5th company in the 10th regiment of militia.

Experience Robinson, of Windham, exhibited his account of his time, expenses, and wages of sundry persons employed by him for going to Portsmouth, in May, 1777, to bring field pieces into this State, amounting to £43 : 6 : 7, which was approved ; and an order drawn on the pay table for the same, July 8.

Mr. Andrew Huntington was directed to apply to Capt. Jabez Perkins, for 20 hogsheads of the poorest quality of molasses, owned by the State in his care, with orders to deliver the same ; and when received, to distil it into rum. Order delivered Gen. Huntington, July 8.

A letter was sent to Benjamin Huntington, Esq., to inform him of the mobs, &c., at New London in taking Mr. Winthrop's goods and others, desiring Mr. Huntington to enquire into the affair, and bring the offenders to justice.

Messrs. Joseph Denison, 2d, and William Elliot, of Stonington, owners of the sloop Dove, were permitted to transport out of this State, two loads, for said sloop, of cheese and Indian corn, to Massachusetts, to procure salt for the inhabitants of this State. The permit delivered to Mr. Denison, July 8.

#### IN SESSION, July 9.

Reuben Scofield, of Stamford, was appointed captain in the battalion ordered to be raised in this State, to defend the sea coast, under Col. Roger Enos, in the place of Jesse Bell, resigned. Christopher Wolcott was appointed surgeon and physician of said regiment.

Robert Rice, of Wallingford, was drafted and ordered to join the

continental army, but by lameness in his feet for years, he was unable to march and do the duty of a soldier, and was therefore dismissed from said draft and service in the battalions raised in this State, for the continental army.

Acors Sheffield exhibited an account of wages due to a number of matrosses, who had served at Stonington, in December, 1776, and January, 1777 ; which was referred to the pay table for adjustment, &c.

Simeon Hicox exhibited an account of provisions supplied the militia companies and troops, posted at Stonington, to the 7th of July, 1777. Referred to the pay table.

Joshua Hubart, of Goshen, in the State of New York, was permitted to transport by land to said State, 25 bushels of salt, for the use of the people of said Goshen.

The civil authority, selectmen, and committee of inspection of Killingworth, stated that Ira Ward, of said town, was confined at Willington, as a tory ; that he had made such assurances of his future good conduct, they asked for his release and return to said Killingworth. The Governor and Council voted to release him, and directed him to return to Killingworth, and remain under the direction of the civil authority, selectmen, and committee of inspection in said town.

#### IN SESSION, July 10.

Nicholas Brown, of Hartford, had (then, lately) gone over to the enemy in New York, and left his wife Hannah, and four children, viz. : one son Nicholas, about 6 years old, and three daughters, Ruth, Hannah, and Cynthia ; Ruth, the eldest, about 16 years of age. The Governor and Council gave liberty to the wife of said Brown, and to the eldest daughter, if either should choose to go to New York to said Nicholas, to permit them at their own expense to go to said Nicholas. And the Governor and Council recommended to the selectmen of Hartford, to take care of and bind out to some good families the other three children. (The permit delivered to Jacob Brown.)

Chauncey Whittlesey, of Middletown, was directed to deliver to the overseers of the lead mine, at Middletown, such provisions and small clothing for the use of the miners employed, as the overseers should judge necessary. Delivered to Capt. Russell.

An order was given to the selectmen of New Milford to receive 100 pounds of musket powder and 200 pounds of musket balls, (which were sent by the selectmen of Woodbury, to New Milford, to the care of Col. Canfield. On the back of said order directions were given to apply to Gen. Silliman for flints, and to make every effort to be supplied. (Order delivered to Mr. Hine, July 10.

IN SESSION, July 11.

An order was sent to Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Esq., to procure a vessel and proceed with a flag to New York, at the expense of the State of New York, to deliver to the gentlemen who were permitted to go to New York on their parole, to return in ten days after the receipt of such order; and in case of refusal, to take care the evidence thereof might be preserved. Also to apply to Ezekiel Williams, Esq., commissary of prisoners of war, for Alexander Clark and John Curry, and any other marine prisoners in his care, to be carried to New York and exchanged.

An order was given to Ezekiel Williams, Esq., to deliver to Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, Alexander Clark and John Curry, and any other marine prisoners in his care who were desirous of it, to be exchanged. Order sent to Mr. Lattimer.

Sent to Gen. Jabez Huntington, at Norwich, 2,309 pounds of sheet lead.

An order was sent to Capt. Josiah Child, of Col. Bradley's regiment, touching Elam Hulet and Nathaniel Kee, soldiers impressed from Capt. David Cooley's company, in Killingly, represented not to be able bodied men; directing him not to march soldiers who were apparently disabled; if any to inform the Governor.

Nathaniel Raymond to be lieutenant of the 2d company in Norwalk, in the 9th regiment of militia in this State.

Received a letter from Col. Moses Robinson, dated at Bennington, July 8th, 1777, by William Field, advising of the evacuation of the posts at the northward.

IN SESSION, July 12.

A permit was granted to Daniel Hinsdale, Jr., of Hartford, to transport out of this State, 3 tons of flour, 18 barrels of beef, and 1 barrel of hog's lard, to Massachusetts. Said articles on board a boat or sloop at East Haddam, Capt. James, master. Salt to be brought in return.

Sent per Thomas Loomis 1 hogshead sugar, contents 12 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs.; 1 hogshead New England rum, contents 117 gallons. And per Joseph Loomis, 3 hogsheads of clothing, contents 1,000 shirts, 768 hose; to be delivered to Messrs. Elijah Hubbard and Royal Flint, at Danbury, or where directed by them, for the use of the continental troops.

The Governor was desired to endorse to Maj. Joshua Huntington, an order drawn by the Hon. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, in favor of Gov. Trumbull, on John Lawrence, Esq., commissioner of the continental loan office, in the State of Connecticut, for

\$20,000, in part payment for the frigate (then) building at Norwich, for the United States of America. Said Huntington to account for the same in the settlement for building said frigate; which was endorsed by the Governor and delivered to Maj. Huntington, July 14, 1777, and his receipt taken.

An order was drawn on the pay table for the sum of £787 : 12 : 6½ in favor of Capt. William Coit, (then) late commander of the ship Oliver Cromwell, in full of all his demands on the State of Connecticut, on account of wages of himself, his officers and men on board said ship, or any other account whatever, agreeable to the award of Capt. Nathaniel Backus, Jabez Perkins, and William Hubbard, to whom said accounts were referred.

Received an order for the above sum, July 14th, 1777.

WM. CORR.

An order was given to the pay table to allow to William Wheeler, a just reward for riding express from Salisbury to Lebanon, and to draw on the Treasurer for the balance, and charge the same to the United States.

Mr. Brown, the post rider, was sent express to head quarters with letters of importance, which took a great part of the day to prepare.

David Trumbull was appointed to receive the old fire arms brought from Albany, and to have them appraised by two indifferent men, to examine them, and have repaired all that were worth repairing, and have them fit for service, at the expense of the State, as soon as might be.

#### IN SESSION, July 15.

Orders were given to Col. Enos in the words following, viz. :

“State of Connecticut, by the Captain General : To Roger Enos, Esq., colonel of the 1st regiment raised for the defence of the sea coast, &c. You are hereby ordered, forthwith, to order the fullest company now at New Haven, under your command, to march to the town of Norwalk, and the captain of the same, to post them as guards where most needed, for defence of that part of the coast; to obey such orders as he shall receive from Brig. Gen. Silliman, or other his superior officers.”

John McCleave was permitted to transport 1 ton of flax, 2½ tons of rye flour, and 400 bushels of corn, on board the schooner George, Samuel Perkins, master, to Massachusetts, for the purpose of purchasing salt, to be imported into this State.

Capt. John Venters was ordered to dismiss the militia men under his common duty, at Saybrook, and to secure the public arms, cartridges, &c. The order delivered to Mr. Smith, of Chatham.



A permit was granted to Shubael Chase and Nathaniel Bunker, of Nantucket, to purchase and export from Connecticut, to said Nantucket, for their inhabitants, a small boat load of provisions and flax ; the embargo notwithstanding. A like permit was granted to Zebediah Cleaveland, of Martha's Vinyard. A like permit was also granted to Mr. John Wass, to export the same quantity of the same articles to Martha's Vinyard.

IN SESSION, July 16.

An order on the pay table was drawn for £1,000, in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., commissary at Groton.

A permit was given to Col. Joseph Drake, (then) late of New Rochelle, to transport through and carry out of this State, 22 hogsheads of sugar, by him brought from Providence, to be marked by Capt. Jabez Perkins, and shipped for Hartford, and there examined by Ezekiel Williams, Esq., and certified by him as laden with the same, and permitted to pass.

Orders were given to Ezekiel Williams, Esq., in the words following, to wit :

"State of Connecticut, by the Governor : To Ezekiel Williams, Esq., commissary of prisoners :—You are hereby directed to deliver to Capt. Samuel Lyon, of Rye, in the State of New York, Henry Hallock, a seaman, and one other seaman, prisoners in this State, such as you may judge convenient, (never an inhabitant in this State,) to be exchanged for a son of said Capt. Samuel Lyon, and one other person, a friend of his, who are prisoners with our enemies, taking Capt. Lyon's receipt to return said Hallock and other prisoner, if not exchanged ; keeping an account of your doings and what is done thereon, and make return to the Governor and Council."

Joshua Bottom was appointed 1st lieutenant in Capt. James Smith's company in Col. Ely's regiment.

Norwich, June 1st, 1777.

Received of Mr. Adam Babcock, by order of His Excellency Gov. Trumbull, eight bales of woolen cloth, No. 21, 22, 32, 36, 37, 38, 44, and 48, containing 2,853½ ells ; two bales, No. 51, and 54, containing 110 blankets ; also two bales of blankets, No. 50, and 53, and two bales of cloth, No. 26, and 35, contents unknown, forwarded to Hartford, for the use of the continental battalions in this State. Likewise, received sixteen bales, No. 14, 17, 20, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31, 33, 34, 39, 40, 45, 49, 52, forwarded to Jeremiah Wadsworth, Esq., to be transported to the clothier general, the contents unknown, having signed two receipts of the same tenor and date. Received per Andrew Huntington ; which was endorsed and signed by Gov. Trumbull.



A permit was given John Deming, of Wethersfield, to ship 300 bushels of corn, 200 of rye, 2 barrels of beans, and 20 barrels of rye flour, and transport it in the schooner Speedwell, to exchange for salt for the use of the inhabitants of this State, any embargo notwithstanding.

IN SESSION, July 17.

Edward Hallam was appointed commissary for the troops at New London fort, in place of Capt. John Deshon, appointed by the Continental Congress, one of the Naval Board for the eastern department; and said Hallam was directed to apply to Capt. Deshon for all the stores he had on hand, and for directions from him; and said Hallam was ordered to attend to such further orders as he should receive from time to time.

Col. John Ely was ordered to dismiss a Negro slave, (owned by Joseph Crandall,) from his regiment, to return to said Crandall; and his premium, arms, &c. to be returned before his dismissal.

Capt. Deshon was directed to purchase a house and lot of land, in New London, the property of Eliphalet Lester, at as reasonable a price as he could, for the purpose of a barrack for the troops of this State, and to take the deed to the Governor and company.

Capt. Deshon was directed to send a small vessel to Bedford, to load with salt, the property of this State, which the commissary general imported in the vessel commanded by Capt. Allen Stillman, for the State; to deliver one-half of said salt at Norwich, for the commissary general, and the other half for the use of this State; and the remainder of his cargo, Capt. Stillman was ordered to store at Bedford, in the best manner he could, for safety, except so much salt as should be a sufficient ballast for his vessel, and proceed to Hartford, and deliver one-half of said salt to the commissary general for his use, and the other for the use of this State; and then to deliver the vessel to the owner; and to deliver the State's half of the salt, at Norwich, to Capt. Jabez Perkins.

Capt. Deshon was directed to furnish the old brig Defence with four carriage guns, 6 pounders, and eight swivels, with ten small arms, and ammunition enough to defend her for her voyage then to be performed; to apply to Elderkin & Wales for powder; to Gen. Huntington for shot; to Capt. Jabez Huntington, of Windham, for the small arms.

IN SESSION, July 18.

The Governor was desired to give the following orders to Col. John Ely:

“ By the Captain General : To John Ely, colonel of the 2d regiment of troops ordered raised by the Assembly, in May, 1777, for the defence of the sea coast and frontiers of this State and places adjacent :— You are hereby directed to station Capt. Palmer, with his 2d lieutenant Chapman, and the soldiers they enlisted at Stonington ; those troops stationed by former orders at Lyme and Saybrook, are to continue there until further orders. You will order two companies of the regiment into Groton fort, for the present. The remaining part of the regiment, you will order to fort Trumbull and thereabouts, and employ them in completing the works there ; and the men at each of those forts are to take the tour of fatigue equally ; those of Groton that may be spared from the necessary guards and works, you will order over, and employ in the works at fort Trumbull, in rotation, leaving there what are needed to complete the works at Groton. You will take care that the men are kept clean, and to duty ; and when on fatigue, they are to receive, by your orders in writing, or the order of the commanding officer, in your absence, the rum allowed when on fatigue duty. You will take care and prevent all kinds of embezzlements and abuses of arms, ordnance stores, tools and utensils owned by the public. A keeper of the ordnance and military stores will be appointed, whose duty will be pointed out. The plan of the works is laid out, to which you will attend, and when any further directions are needful, you will apply to this Board, and follow such orders as may be given. Mr. Edward Hallam is appointed commissary to provide for the men on New London side ; Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq. is appointed commissary on Groton side ; Capt. Cockran at Saybrook. You will take care that the military officers and matrosses attend, and do faithfully their duty, and from time to time give information and all needful intelligence to this Board. You will attend to the services to be performed by every part of your regiment ; to see it duly ordered and performed, and direct advice to be given you in case of the appearance of an enemy, or an attack ; you will put all in proper posture of defence. And on every necessary occasion forward intelligence to me, and make needful alarms. You will give the necessary orders for preventing the landing of the enemy. You will, as soon as may be, send me a return of your regiment, in due form. And you will attend and obey all orders you may receive from me or other your superior officers. You are also to take care and make proper enquiry of all such vessels, boats, &c., as pass the fort, and attend to the law and the orders which may be further given for your direction. Given under my hand, at Lebanon, the 18th day of July 1777.

“ JONATHAN TRUMBULL.”

An order in favor of Capt. Nathaniel Saltonstall was drawn on Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Esq., for £200, towards paying the artillery under his command.

IN SESSION, July 20..

Consulted on some matters of importance in relation to the letters from the westward, with the information that a fleet of the enemy was in the sound, proceeding eastward.

IN SESSION, July 21.

Orders were given to Brig. Gen. Douglass, of the 5th brigade of militia in this State, to call together the field officers of his brigade, to consult on the best and most expeditious manner of collecting and marching the companies of his brigade to any place attacked. On the alarm which then existed, he was advised to settle the officers for each of the four divisions, and their rotation; and to use prudence, how the men of the 1st division should be well armed and equipped for a march, so as to be in immediate readiness, and hindered as little as possible by their business; as it was probable their march would be to Providence, of which he would soon be informed by further orders, if it should be so. It appeared in the alarm list that many men were cripples and incurable, which rendered it impracticable for them to march and perform the duties of soldiers: Therefore Gen. Douglass was directed to examine the several cases and excuse such as the law had provided for; and not to dismiss, but to hold such as were of ability of estate, to be well furnished with arms, ammunition, and ready to do whatever was reasonable, and promote the defence of the rights and liberties of their country. No returns had been received from any brigade or regiment, which by law should be done every two months.

An order was given on Elijah Hubbard to supply Ebenezer Ledyard and Edward Hallam, commissaries, with flour needful for the troops in their department.

An order for 20 bushels of salt was given on Capt. Deshon, for the use of the troops at New London.

An order was given on Andrew Huntington to deliver one hogshead of New England rum to Edward Hallam, for the use of the troops of the State at New London.

An order was voted to be drawn on the pay table in favor of Edward Hallam, for the sum of £600 lawful money, to enable him to provide for the troops at New London, and render his account.

A commission was given by the Governor to the Hon. Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, and Titus Hosmer, to act as a committee

from this State, in conjunction with committees from the States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and New York, to consult on the state of the currency of those States, the expediency of calling it in, &c., to meet at Springfield, on the 30th day of July, 1777.

The Governor gave a permit to Isaac Beers and Henry Dagget, of New Haven, to transport 200 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of rye, or flour equivalent, 1 ton of flax, and 10 barrels of salted beef from Connecticut to Massachusetts Bay, in small boats under the inspection of Samuel Bishop, Jr., Esq., and to be exchanged for salt, oil, and sugar, for the use of the inhabitants. Permit delivered to Roger Sherman, Esq.

IN SESSION, July 22.

A permit was given Vandervoort, Drake, Sands & Co., to transport 25 hogsheads of sugar, they had on hand, into the State of New York, to be first inspected, marked and certified by E. Williams, Esq., and then transported, the embargo notwithstanding, for the use of the army and friendly inhabitants in the State of New York.

Orders were given to Brig. Gen. Erastus Wolcott, in the same form as had been given Gen. Douglass.

An order was given on Elderkin & Wales for 200 pounds of musket powder, to the selectmen of Voluntown, to be accounted for as part of their proportion of public powder. The order delivered to Capt. Isaac Gallup, July 22.

The Governor and Council were informed that there were a number of public arms in the hands of Col. John Durkee, in Norwich, which required repairs before they could be used; therefore Col. Samuel Abbott was directed to receive said arms, and see them in the most prudent method repaired.

An order was drawn in favor of Elijah Barker, Esq., on Capt. Tyley, for 4 tons of pig iron, the property of the State.

It was resolved that a company of artillery, of thirty-four men, including officers, should be raised within the 20th regiment of militia, in this State. The non-commissioned officers and privates were to be raised by voluntary enlistment; to exercise the mounted field-pieces at Norwich, in case of an invasion or attack by the enemy, and subject to the orders of the Captain General, and other superior officers, and the field officers of said regiment; who were also to be excused from any other military duty while said company should be continued. The commissioned officers appointed by the Governor and Council, and the non-commissioned officers to be chosen by the company; and all future vacancies of commissioned officers to be filled by said company. Jacob Dewitt was appointed captain of said company; Joseph Howland,

captain-lieutenant ; Isaac Abel, lieutenant ; and William Lax, lieutenant fire worker of said company. The Governor was desired to commission the officers, provided a number sufficient should be enlisted within three weeks from the 22d day of July, 1777.

Ralph Williams, a soldier in the service of the State, had liberty to enlist into the continental service for three years, or during the war.

Sarah Ketchum, of Fairfield, the wife of James Ketchum, shewed to the Governor and Council that her husband was at Huntington, on Long Island, and desired that she might be permitted to go to him with her family ; and that William Lieet, then in Connecticut, had a family at said Huntington, that he was desirous to remove to Connecticut, which could not be done except by an exchange of families ; and prayed the Governor and Council to grant her liberty to go to Long Island with her family, household furniture, and provisions, and be exchanged for the family, household furniture, and provisions of the said William Lieet, &c. The said Sarah Ketchum was permitted to go to said Huntington with her family of three small children, to be exchanged for the whole family of said William Lieet ; and to keep her household furniture and a small quantity of provisions, provided the same indulgence should be granted to the said William Lieet, otherwise to be returned ; and Gen. Silliman was ordered to grant a flag for said purpose.

#### IN SESSION, July 23.

Joseph Chew had liberty granted him to fish in any part of the fish pond within the limits of his parole, and go round the pond for that purpose, provided he should commit no trespass in so doing.

The Governor and Council directed David Trumbull to purchase and procure for this State, four teams, to consist of one yoke of oxen, one horse, and a convenient cart, and proper harness for each team, to be used at the works at fort Trumbull that season, at as cheap a rate as he prudently could, and report the expense to the Governor and Council.

An order was drawn on David Trumbull for £25 : 5 : 10 money, in favor of John and Daniel Dewey, for carting powder and lead from Lebanon to Litchfield, in July, 1777, and a load of cannon shot from Litchfield to Lebanon, and two loads from Lebanon to Norwich, and expenses.

Edward Hallam was directed to provide four ammunition carts for the use of the troops at New London, of a proper construction to be useful at the forts : and to be advised by Col. Ely and Maj. Saxonstall as to the construction of said carts.

John Raymond was appointed to engage 12 draught horses in New London, to be ready on the shortest notice, to be used in the field carriages, or other use at New London, on any emergency ; the horses to be appraised, and their hire to be paid while in actual service, and the horses paid for if lost in public use ; and to confer with Maj. William Hillhouse, and take his directions therein.

IN SESSION, July 24.

Catherine Spalden, (then) late from Scotland, a resident in Norwalk, in this State, stated and shewed to the Governor and Council, that she with her husband, some years previous, came from Scotland to New York ; that her husband about three years previous sailed on a voyage to Europe ; that she had heard nothing from him since he sailed, and supposed him deceased ; that when the enemy came to New York, she fled to Norwalk, in this State, with some small effects ; that James Bradley fled with her to Norwalk, and was then sick with the consumption, and depended upon her for supplies ; that she had parents then living in Scotland, and no friends in this country ; and prayed the Governor and Council for liberty to go with said Bradley to New York, and take with her, her furniture and clothes, for the purpose of sailing for Scotland, from New York. All which was granted ; and Gen. Silliman was directed to grant a flag for that purpose.

IN SESSION, July 25.

Upon the desire of Peter Bulkley and others, church wardens, and Jonathan Sturges, Thaddeus Burr, &c., and at the request of the civil authority, selectmen, and committee of inspection, at Fairfield, requesting the Governor and Council that the Rev. John Sayer might be released from confinement at Farmington, and return to Fairfield to his care and charge, &c. The Governor and Council directed the said Sayer to be released from his confinement, and permitted him to return to Fairfield, and there to remain within the limits of the first society, by his giving bond with sufficient surety for his future good behavior. The bond taken by Jonathan Sturges and Thaddeus Burr, to whom he was delivered.

The fore part of the day was occupied in writing letters to Gen. Washington and members of Congress.

IN SESSION, July 26.

The fore part of the day was employed in preparing letters to head quarters, and to delegates at Congress ; and sent by Samuel Hunt, an express.

Orders were given to Col. John Ely, concerning ammunition carts, teams, tools, utensils, draught horses, pay master, commissary of ordnance stores, muster master, artificers, magazines, Saybrook fort, &c., as on file.

IN SESSION, July 28.

Samuel Burrall, of Norwalk, was permitted to transport out of this State, 30 barrels of flour, and 50 bushels of rye, to Dartmouth, on board a boat, to be exchanged for West India goods. A like permit was given to Jesse Lockwood, of said Norwalk, for 30 barrels of flour, and 400 bushels of rye and corn, for the same place, and for the same purpose.

IN SESSION, July 29.

An order was given on the Treasurer to deliver 500 pounds of musket powder to the selectmen of Simsbury ; order delivered to Joseph Tuller, selectman.

Capt. Cotton, of Middletown, came before the Governor and Council for advice in the difficulties he met with in building the continental ship, and for directions how to obtain needful moneys and provisions for said purpose ; who was heard and answered.

David Trumbull was desired to send two teams to East Hartford, to bring to Lebanon, and to remain under his care, 500 stand of arms, or one-half the arms received (then) lately from Springfield, lodged in the hands of Capt. Russel Woodbridge ; and to send up by the same teams a set of tyre for a four wheel carriage, to the care of said Woodbridge, to be used by the selectmen of Hartford, for mounting a cannon brought from Windsor, in the care of the selectmen of Hartford.

IN SESSION, July 30.

An order was given on Capt. E. Bill, in favor of Thomas Mumford, Esq., for 235 gallons of rum, to be paid out of the State stores, for the same quantity borrowed of him ; with orders to give intelligence if he had any or could get any.

Orders were given to the several brigadier generals, to put the militia of the State in readiness to march, on the shortest notice, to any place attacked.

At 5 o'clock, P. M. an express arrived at Lebanon, from head quarters, at Peekskill, with the intelligence that Gen. Washington had marched, with the main body of his army, to the southward, towards Philadelphia, expecting the British fleet had gone there ; and the troops at Peekskill apprehended the moving of the fleet was only a decoy, and

that the return of the enemy might be expected, and an attack made upon their post in the absence of the American troops; and required the militia, &c. Upon which a despatch was sent to Springfield, to the committees of the States then in session there, for their advice, &c.; and for ammunition to be furnished and forwarded from the laboratory at Springfield, to Peekskill, &c. Orders to the brigadier generals had been given and were renewed and enforced.

IN SESSION, July 31.

A permit was given to James Church to ship 2 tons of flour, 200 bushels of corn, and some onions, and 8 barrels of provisions, to Massachusetts; the barrels of provisions for the use of a vessel, &c., and the remainder to exchange for salt.

A permit was given to Charles Caldwell to ship and transport to Massachusetts, 7 tons of flour, on board the sloop Eleanor, Capt. Benjamin Horton, master, for Bedford, to purchase salt.

Thomas Clark, of Nantucket, had a permit to transport to Massachusetts.

IN SESSION, August 1.

A consultation was had on the subject matter of letters from Gen. Schuyler, and from the Convention of New York, requesting 2,000 of the militia of this State, to join the continental forces at the northward, in order to repulse the progress of the enemy, and make an inroad in that part of the country. The whole day was spent in consultation on this subject, and the farther consideration deferred to the 2d day of August.

IN SESSION, August 2.

Barber, the post rider, returned from the States' committees met at Springfield; then resumed the subject of yesterday's consultation.

Seth Mayo, of Nantucket, was permitted to purchase 300 bushels of rye and corn in exchange for salt, to transport in his boat Fanny, to Nantucket.

A letter was sent to Gen. Schuyler, by his own express, informing him of the determination of the Governor and Council, agreeable to their former proposal to forward troops to join the continental army at Peekskill, with the expectation that the army at the northward would be reinforced from the continental troops at Peekskill, or more southern parts of the country; which appeared to the Board would serve the common cause much better than to reinforce the northern army with militia, as well as on the account of the facility of the march, and the steadiness of the continental troops inured to service, which rendered



them preferable to the militia, who are ever impatient in a lengthy campaign.

Mr. Andrew Huntington was directed to send one hogshead of New England rum, to the care of Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., for the troops at Groton.

Orders were given to Col. Ely, to remove the platform from the old fort in New London town, to fort Trumbull.

Orders were given to Elderkin & Wales to send one ton of gun powder to Maj. Gen. Jabez Huntington, for the use of this State.

Maj. Gen. Huntington was desired to send 150 pounds of musket powder, and 10 fire arms, (sent him from Windham,) to Capt. John Deshon, for the brig Defence ; and 500 pounds of musket powder, one-half to Maj. Saltonstall, and the other half to Maj. William Ledyard, for the use of the forts at New London and Groton.

The Governor and Council confirmed an order drawn by the Governor, on Col. Pitkin or John Lawrence, for 200 pounds of powder, in favor of Col. Hamlin, for the miners at Middletown.

Job Bartram was established captain ; David Wheeler, lieutenant, and Samuel Silliman, ensign of the 1st company of alarm list, in the 4th regiment of militia in this State ; which were commissioned by the Governor.

#### IN SESSION, August 4.

Many matters of a public nature were consulted by the Governor and Council, especially with regard to the movements of the enemy at the northward and westward. Those at the northward had penetrated the country as far as fort Edward ; and the fleet at the westward had arrived within the capes of Delaware, which called for our speedy and vigorous efforts to prevent their designs.

#### IN SESSION, August 5.

This day was spent in preparing letters and sending expresses to Providence, Boston, &c., and giving information of the situation of the affairs of the army at the westward. Also consulted on various public matters, particularly on the necessity of calling the General Assembly to sit at Hartford, on the 2d Wednesday of August, 1777.

#### IN SESSION, August 6.

A letter was received by Gen. Wadsworth from Brig. Gen. Silliman, which enclosed copies of letters from Gen. Parsons and Col. Root, to him ; also a copy of a letter from Gen. Washington to Gen. Putnam, which gave the information that the British had sailed out from the capes of Delaware in an eastern course, and desired the militia of Gen. Silliman's brigade to aid them. An express immediately after

arrived with a letter from Peekskill, which contained the same information as the above ; also that the army at Peekskill were in reasonable apprehension of an attack at the Highlands, on the North river. Gen. Silliman stated in his letter, that in consequence of the contents of the copies above, he had ordered the two northern regiments of his brigade, to immediately march to Peekskill ; also a detachment of Col. Enos' regiment in Fairfield county ; and one company of horse from the 3d regiment, and the whole of the 5th regiment, to march to the same place. All of which was approved by the Governor and Council.

A letter was received by the Governor and Council from Brig. Gen. Oliver Wolcott, which stated that he had ordered all the effective men of Sheldon's horse, and Humphrey's regiment, who had not done a tour of duty under the (then) late act, and were by law liable to do duty out of the State, to march well armed, &c., and with four days provisions to Peekskill, to defend that post, which appeared to the enemy an object worth attaining ; which was approved by the Governor and Council. The Council to promote the march of the militia to Peekskill, gave orders to the pay table to draw on the Treasurer of this State, for £1,000 in favor of Gen. O. Wolcott ; and £1,000 in favor of Gen. G. S. Silliman ; £400 in favor of Gen. Erastus Wolcott, and £300 in favor of Gen. A. Ward, by them to be paid to the commanding officers of the marching militia, from their respective brigades, towards Peekskill, for the purpose of advancing 18s. to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, and the remainder to continue in said officers' hands to defray contingent charges of the march. The sum for Gen. O. Wolcott was forwarded by Mr. Sheldon, and the remainder by express.

Orders were given to Gen. Erastus Wolcott to draft 400 men of his brigade, officered and equipped, to go on horse back to Peekskill. And like orders were given Gen. Ward to draft 300 men of his brigade for the same purpose.

And it was resolved, that Brig. Gen. Andrew Ward, Jr., should take the command of the militia then sent to Peekskill.

It was also resolved, to forward the 100 barrels of powder stored at Lebanon, to the care of Thomas Lewis, in Farmington, to be stored under a proper guard, until further orders from Gen. Washington, or the Governor and Council. An express was sent to Peekskill, to the general officers there, to inform them where said powder was deposited for their use if needed.

Letters were sent to Generals E. Wolcott, Oliver Wolcott, Silliman, and Ward, with orders to draft men from their brigades as had been

resolved, by the Governor and Council. A letter was sent by the Governor and Council to Gen. Silliman, as follows, viz. :

“ State of Connecticut, by the Governor : To the Hon. Brigadier General Silliman. Yours of the 4th inst. I have before me, informing that you have given orders to your two northern regiments in your brigade ; a detachment from Col. Enos’ battalion ; one troop of horse from the 3d regiment, and the whole of the 5th regiment of horse to march immediately to Peekskill, for the defence of that post, in consequence of letters received from Generals Washington and Parsons, &c., (which was approved.) Agreeable to your request, I have sent forward by a wagon a quantity of flints to Woodbury, to the care of Gideon Walker, Esq., August 6th, 1777.”

A permit was given to Thomas Wilkins to exchange some West India goods, for flour, butter, cheese, hog’s lard, and flax, and export the same to Massachusetts.

A permit was given to Mr. Jarvis to transport a quantity of flour to Bedford, to exchange for West India goods. Also a permit was given to Hezekiah Fenemour, captain of the schooner (Go and Come) to ship a quantity of lumber and poultry, and export the same to the French West Indies to purchase West India goods.

#### IN SESSION, August 7.

Nathaniel Wales, 3d, was established captain ; Joseph Coy, lieutenant, and Ebenezer Bingham, ensign of the 1st company of alarm list, 5th regiment ; commissioned August 7th.

Daniel Brush, a resident of the State of New York, after a letter from Thomas Treadwell, as to his character, was read, and was released from any further restraint upon him by the Board.

Mr. David Trumbull was directed to procure teams and convey 100 barrels of continental gun powder from Lebanon to Farmington, to the care of Thomas Lewis, or farther as Gen. Washington might direct for the army ; and to procure a wagon, to go with the wagon purchased at Lebanon ; to remain in the service at the wages paid others, or return ; and that the wagon at the direction of the Governor should be loaded with supplies, &c., for the troops from Connecticut, directed to the proper commissaries, which attended the army.

A packet of letters were sent by the Governor to Peekskill, to Gen. Washington and others, by John Palmer, Esq.

An order of £22 : 12 : 5 was drawn in favor of Maj. Gen. James Wadsworth, for a journey and expenses of himself and waiter, to fort Edward, on public business, July 1st, 1777, as per his account.

Mr. David Trumbull was desired to send by a team, 2 hogshheads of

State's rum, in his hands, to Capt. Ephraim Bill, of Norwich, who was desired to receive it, and pay, or replace it to Thomas Mumford, Esq., of Groton, (being 235 gallons of rum borrowed of him,) to observe the quality of the rum borrowed, and of that replaced, so as to do justice.

IN SESSION, August 8.

Mr. David Trumbull was desired to procure a team, and send it to Bedford, in Massachusetts, and bring the flints imported by Capt. Deshon for this State, and as much of the Ticklinburgh duck and rigging imported at the same time, as would make a load to Lebanon.

It was resolved, that Messrs. Daniel Sherman and Benjamin Huntington, should be desired to give a bond with Capt. Daniel Deshon, in the sum of £1,000, that he as captain of the letter of marque brig, (called the Old Defence,) owned by this State, should faithfully execute his office and trust, according to the orders of Congress; and the said Sherman and Huntington were to be indemnified by the State against all damages for so doing.

An order was given on the pay table for £120, in favor of Lieut. William Seymour, of the artillery company at Norwalk, towards his pay and wages, and of his company.

Stephen Fish, of Nantucket, was permitted to exchange salt in this State, for 200 barrels of flour, 200 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of rye, and flax as much as he should want; and transport the same to Nantucket, the embargo notwithstanding.

IN SESSION, (at Hartford) August 16.

Consulted on sundry matters.

IN SESSION, August 18.

Capt. Chew applied to enlist a number of men from the forts, at New London, on board his brig Resistance; which was refused, as the men could not be spared.

It was voted, that Nathaniel Barnard, of Nantucket, and Gideon Delano, of Dartmouth, might exchange their small cargoes of salt, molasses, and rum in this State, for produce, and transport it to Massachusetts.

Gen. Silliman was directed to enquire into the suspected forgery of a permit from Gen. Jones, to the sloop Sally, to pass from New York to Rye, to carry off some tories and their effects from said Rye, to New York.

IN SESSION, August 20.

Capt. Allen Stillman was directed to store the salt in his hands, (the property of the State,) in a safe store, and deliver one bushel to Capt.

Ebenezer Grant, of East Windsor, for supporting and for the use of the guard that kept. Gen. Prescott.

Capt. Samuel Squire was directed to attend the vendue of prize goods at Fairfield, and to purchase such provisions as he could that would be useful to this State, as he should judge prudent.

IN SESSION, August 21.

An order was given to James Church, to deliver to Dr. Joshua Elderkin the flax in his hands, owned by the State, not exceeding one ton.

An order was given on Titus Hosmer, Esq., to deliver all the flax in his care, to Chauncey Whittlesey, Esq., to be manufactured for public use.

An order was given on the pay table in favor of Col. Nathaniel Terry, for £19 : 3, for his trouble and expense for his bringing 36 chests of fire arms from Springfield to Hartford.

The order given to purchase provisions at vendue, in Fairfield, was countermanded.

Capt. Samuel Squire was directed to continue to supply the troops in service in this State, in Fairfield county, and to purchase clothing, &c.

The sheriff of New London county was directed to make further and diligent search for sugar, &c., under his warrant to seize the same for public use ; and to take 10 hogsheads of sugar out of the whole.

IN SESSION, August 22.

An order was drawn on the pay table for £658 : 10 : 2, in favor of J. Huntington, of Windham county, for rum and coffee, for persons imprisoned by him in that county, by order of the Governor and Council.

An order was drawn in favor of David Trumbull, on the agent of the prizes of this State, in Massachusetts, to deliver him such quantities of the wines, tea, and clothing, brought in the prize taken by the ship Oliver Cromwell, as he could conveniently bring to Lebanon with his teams then going there.

An order was given on Elderkin & Wales for 500 pounds of gun powder, in favor of Nathaniel Shaw, for the use of the brig Resistance.

IN SESSION, August 23.

Jonathan Woodworth, prize master of brigantine Honor, bound from Dartmouth, in England, to Newfoundland, taken by the Oliver Cromwell, Seth Harding, Esq., commander, on the 8th of July, 1777, in latitude 45, longitude 34, had safely arrived at Dartmouth, in New England. He reported the cargo to the Governor and Council as follows, viz. : 2 chests of tea, 15 hogsheads of porter, 1 case of linens,

8 barrels of pitch, 5 barrels of tar, 3 casks of leather and clothing, 50,000 pounds of bread and flour, 2 tons of cordage, 2 pipes of port wine, 120 barrels of pork, 120 barrels of beef, and 180 firkins of butter. A letter was sent by the Governor and Council to Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., agent of this State, to inform him of said prize, at Dartmouth, and gave him instructions relating to it.

An order was given to Ichabod Allen, of Sharon, to receive 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 pounds of flour, at Dartmouth, a part of the said cargo, for a like quantity of said Allen, in the care of William Bull, of Hartford.

A letter was written and forwarded to the Marine Board, respecting the continental ship-of-war, (then) building at Middletown, in this State, under the direction of Capt. John Cotton.

IN SESSION, August 23.

James Bull was appointed to make provision for the militia ordered to march and join and assist the northern army ; was directed to save the hides and tallow of such cattle as he should purchase for said troops, for the use of the State ; and to take care that the hides should be kept from spoiling, and the tallow tried, and cause them to be transported to Hartford, by the return teams and carriages that should go to transport the baggage of the troops to the army, unless he should find it best for the State to sell the same.

An order was drawn on Capt. Allen Stillman, in favor of James Bull, for 10 bushels of salt owned by the State, for the use of the militia of the State, on their march to join the northern army.

It was resolved, that orders be given to Marshfield Parsons, Esq., lieutenant colonel of the 3d regiment of militia in this State, to call out the militia of the town of Lyme, or such part of them from time to time, as should be thought necessary for the defence of said town against the incursion of the enemy on the sea coast, and to order them as would be most effectual, &c.

A letter was sent to Col. Ely, to order Capt. Collins, of his regiment, ordered to Lyme with his company, to return to New London.

IN SESSION, August 26.

Dr. John Endicott was appointed surgeon to the battalion of militia under Col. Thaddeus Cook, ordered to the northern army, under the command of Gen. Gates.

Nine barrels of flour in William Bull's hands were ordered sent to Saybrook, to Capt. John Cockran, to supply the guards there.

The committee of pay table were ordered to settle the accounts exhibited to them for procuring, collecting, and making cartridges for the militia of the State, when ordered into service.

Former warrants had been issued to the sheriffs of Hartford, New

Haven, and New London counties, to impress certain West India goods for the use of the State, which were suspended until further orders; and a resolution passed desiring the Governor to issue warrants and an order to the sheriffs of Hartford, New Haven, New London, Fairfield, and Litchfield counties, directing them to propose to the merchants in the several counties, to furnish the quantities of West India goods specified herein, in proportion to such goods as they should have, at a reasonable price as said sheriffs and merchants could agree, or as should be determined by two or three judicious freeholders elected by the parties; and if said merchants should not voluntarily furnish said goods; in such case said sheriffs were ordered to impress and take said quantities of West India goods in their respective counties, from any person in whose hands the same should be found, and have the same appraised by two or three judicious freeholders elected by the parties, or appointed by the next assistant or justice of the peace; and to make returns of their doings. The quantities and kinds of West India goods to be taken in the several counties were as follows, viz.: Hartford county, 10 hogsheads of rum, 20 of sugar, 40 of molasses, and 7,000 pounds of coffee; New Haven county, 4 hogsheads of rum, 10 of sugar, 20 of molasses, and 3,000 pounds of coffee; New London county, 6 hogsheads of rum, 10 of sugar, 20 of molasses, and 5,000 pounds of coffee; Fairfield county, 4 hogsheads of rum, 6 of sugar, and 2,000 pounds of coffee; Litchfield county, 4 hogsheads of rum, 6 of sugar, and 2,000 pounds of coffee. And it was provided, that in case the quantities aforesaid could be, and was supplied in manner aforesaid, that the suspended warrants should be recalled.

Benjamin Payne, Esq., was ordered to deliver to Capt. Abner Prior, for the use of Col. Bradley's regiment, all the shoes of the State, in his possession.

It was resolved, that the managers of Salisbury furnace, were empowered and ordered to exchange the pig iron in their custody, owned by the State, so far as necessary, for rum, sugar, molasses, salt, provisions, and other necessaries, to enable them to carry on said furnace and continue the blast.

It was voted for the time being, that 30 bushels of salt out of the salt at Hartford, imported by Capt. Allen Stillman, for the State; 2 hogsheads of molasses from Norwich, and 7 barrels of pork, (out of Thomas Mumford's pork in the hands of the commissary general,) should be sent to Salisbury, to the managers of the furnace.

IN SESSION, August 27.

The Governor was desired by the Council, to give orders to Col. William Worthington, and issue a warrant to enable him to reclaim a certain whale boat of this State, taken by one Tryon, of Wethersfield,



from Richard Dickinson, of Saybrook ; and retain the other whale boat owned by the State, and use them in the State service.

Dr. George Olcott was appointed physician and surgeon to the regiment of militia ordered to the northward, by the General Assembly, on the 13th of August, 1777.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) August 29.

A permit was given to Ebenezer Griffin, Jr., of Windham, to transport to Massachusetts or Providence, 10 head of fat cattle, 10 firkins of butter, and 2,000 pounds of cheese, in order to purchase salt and other West India goods.

The day was spent on sundry matters of consequence in consultation.

IN SESSION, August 30.

Complaint was made to Col. J. Lattimer, of the 3d regiment, that Elisha Fox, captain of the 13th company of militia in said regiment, had conducted badly in many respects ; that he was intemperate in the use of strong liquor ; had attempted to obtain a protection from Lord Howe, and unfriendly to the American States, and disobedient to his said colonel ; all which was laid before the Governor and Council. The Governor and Council suspended said Fox in his office, until the session of the Assembly, in October (then) next, and gave the command of said company to the lieutenant of said company.

A number of letters were written to the Governor of Rhode Island, and to the General Assembly of Massachusetts, giving intelligence of the good news from fort Stanwix, as well as the doings of the Assembly with regard to raising militia for the northern department.

David Luce, of Martha's Vineyard, had liberty to transport by water to said place, 20 barrels of rye flour, and 200 pounds of flax. Abisha Luce had liberty to transport to the same place, 12 barrels of rye flour, and 200 pounds of flax.

IN SESSION, September 1.

The principal part of the day was spent in writing letters to Congress, and to the westward.

Gen. Parsons came before the Governor and Council, and proposed the design of Gen. Putnam in an expedition to Long Island ; some consultation on the subject was had, and the further consideration deferred to the 2d of said September.

IN SESSION, September 2.

A commission was given by the Governor, to Peter Griffing, as a captain of a company of rangers, to guard the sea coast, sound, and



islands, on the coast of this State ; to make prisoners of such as he should take in arms against the States. Instructions were given said Griffing ; and the Board approved of said commission, and the bond given for his faithful observance of his instructions.

Orders were sent, in positive terms, to Lieut. Shipman, to afford the necessary assistance to Col. Worthington, in his expedition, and to suffer him to pass with boats, &c. by the fort at Saybrook, without molestation.

IN SESSION, September 4.

Capt. George Chase, of Martha's Vineyard, had a permit to transport by water to the island, 12 barrels of flour, and 100 pounds of cheese.

Orders were given to Capt. Jonathan Parker, in Col. Webb's regiment, in the continental service, by Gov. Trumbull, to enlist into any of the regiments of continental troops raised in Connecticut, any able bodied man for the term of three years or during the war, from the two battalions raised in this State for the defence of the sea coast and frontiers, under Col's. Enos and Ely, (with their £6 received as a premium,) as part of the £10 given by the State, to encourage the filling of the continental army ; and the officers of said two regiments aforesaid were ordered to aid Capt. Parker, or any other officer recruiting, and afford all needed encouragement to enlist said recruits.

An order was given to the selectmen of Stamford, on Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., agent for Connecticut, for 30 bushels of salt owned by the State.

IN SESSION, September 5.

An order was delivered to Maj. Hillhouse, on the pay table, for £99, in favor of Capt. Jonathan Chester, of Groton, in full for lands deeded to the Governor and Company of Connecticut, for the use of the fort, at Groton, (£15 having been before paid to him.)

An order of 19s. was given in favor of Ebenezer Bushnell, for several short journeys on public service.

At this critical juncture, when the forces of the enemy were scattered, vigorous exertion was required to dislodge them from their posts, and prevent their future designs and operations, and rescue the country from their hands ; every person who loved himself, his family, his country, and posterity, were called upon to exert themselves, and excite others to accomplish so desirable an end. It was therefore resolved, that the two battalions raised in this State for the defence of the sea coasts, frontiers, &c., should be filled to the number of 728 men each, inclusive of officers. And to encourage men to enlist into said

battalions agreeable to former enlistments, a bounty of £4 : 10, lawful money, with the same pay and wages, with the subsistence of others in said regiments, was offered, by furnishing themselves with arms and equipments, &c., as others before enlisted had done. And officers were sent out to procure such recruits, to complete the full complement for said companies.

James Parker, of Barnstable, who was a prisoner of war in this State, and who had been forced into the King's service, was ordered discharged by the Governor. It had been represented that said Parker, who had been taken by Maj. Meigs, on Long Island, in the service of Great Britain, and held as a prisoner of war in Willington, in this State, was forced into said service against his will ; that he and his father were friendly to the States ; that he was destitute of clothes ; he therefore petitioned for liberty to return to said Barnstable, to his parents. He was therefore discharged, and permitted to return home.

Barnabas Payne, of Cornwall, was permitted to transport by land or water, 7 or 8 tons of wheat flour, to exchange for salt, in Massachusetts.

IN SESSION, September 6.

An order was drawn on Capt. William Hubbard, for 8 barrels of pork, in favor of Edward Hallam, commissary of Col. Ely's regiment. Also an order on Andrew Huntington, for 1 hogshead of New England rum, to be delivered to said Hallam.

Commissaries Fitch, Squire, and Hallam were ordered to reserve for the use of this State, the hides of the cattle butchered for the supply of the troops.

An order was given to the overseers of the furnace, at Salisbury, in favor of Lieut. Aaron Hawley, of Newfield, for fifty 3 pound round shot, and 100 weight of grape shot.

Joel Chamberlain was permitted to transport 2,000 pounds of cheese to Providence, in the State of Rhode Island.

Capt. J. Elderkin and Andrew Huntington, were each of them ordered to send a load of clothing to the commissary of supplies and refreshments.

IN SESSION, September 8.

Aaron Fuller was established a captain ; Thomas Goodell, lieutenant, and Samuel Bull, ensign of the 7th company in the alarm list, in the 21st regiment of militia.

An order was given Capt. Cockran, on Capt. William Hubbard, for four barrels of pork.

IN SESSION, September 10.

Capt. Stephen Thorp, of Col. Enos' regiment, came before the Governor and Council, and offered to resign his commission, for the reason that his company was not full, and the command of so few men not superior to that of a lieutenant ; which was accepted.

IN SESSION, September 11.

An order was drawn on the pay table for £56, in favor of Elisha Prior, of Groton, for one acre and a quarter of land, taken from him for the use of the fort at Groton.

Ansel M. Helm, of Goshen, in the State of New York, was permitted to transport 5 hogsheads of sugar, by water, from Norwich to Fairfield, and thence by land to Goshen ; provided that Prosper Wetmore, sheriff of New London, had not seized the same, or any part thereof, for the use of this State ; and to endorse upon the permit, that said sheriff had no demands upon said sugar ; and if any, to certify what part, and the remainder to be carried to Goshen.

Solomon Lee applied to the Governor and Council, and stated, that he had undertaken as a teamster for the State, and he was absent with his team, with a load of powder to Farmington, and on his return found he was detached to march with the troops in the 3d regiment of horse, to join the northern army ; when he hired a substitute, and gave him 40s. per month more than his wages allowed ; and continued his business with his teaming to Providence and Dartmouth, in the State's, and the United States' service ; and on his again returning home, on the 8th of September, 1777, found that his substitute, on a better offer from a man at Norwich, at 50s. per month, had engaged to go for him in said service ; and that his place was vacant, and the troops had marched ; and asked the Governor and Council, for these reasons, to excuse him from going after said troops. He was excused from the tour of duty.

Nathaniel Bingham, of Canterbury, was appointed issuing commissary of supplies and refreshments to Col. Durkee's regiment, in the place of John Fitch, resigned.

A permit was given to Capt. William Punchard, to ship from New Haven, on board his boat, to Massachusetts Bay, to exchange for salt, for the use of the inhabitants of this State, 5 barrels of wheat flour, 25 barrels of rye flour, 10 barrels of beef, 150 bushels of rye and corn, 400 pounds of cheese, and 300 pounds of flax.

The Governor and Council had been informed, by Ensign John Smith, in Capt. E. Lathrop's company, in Col. Lattimer's regiment, that several persons belonging to said regiment, who had been drafted to

join said Lathrop's company in the northern army, had refused to march as ordered:—Therefore, the Governor, as Captain General, ordered Col. Abbott to convene such persons as had refused as aforesaid, and hear and examine their reasons for such refusal, and with the advice of his lieutenant colonel and major to excuse such, whose reasons should be judged sufficient, and to assist said ensign, with sufficient guards, to carry to camp, those whose reasons should be found insufficient to excuse them, if such guards should be necessary.

Capt. Christopher Mordenbrugh moved the Governor and Council for a flag of truce, to carry his family and his household furniture, &c., to St. Kitts. He was encouraged that his request should be granted.

IN SESSION, September 12.

Capt. Jabez Perkins, agent for the officers and crew of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, for the captor's part of the chest of bohea tea taken in a prize by said ship, and sent into Dartmouth, then in store at Lebanon. It was resolved, that one-third part of the tea in said chest should be delivered to said agent, for the use of the captors, as part of their share in said prize.

It was resolved, that each town in the State should be requested, as soon as might be, to convene and make provision as should appear best, to procure immediately, one shirt or more if they saw fit, either linen or woollen, one hunting shirt or frock, one pair of woollen overalls, one or two pair of stockings, and one pair of shoes for each non-commissioned officer and soldier in the continental army, who belonged to such towns, and deliver the same to Elijah Hubbard and Royal Flint, superintending commissaries for this State, and by them delivered to the issuing commissaries of the battalions of the continent, raised in Connecticut, and by them delivered to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers at the following prices, viz. : shoes at 8s. 6d. ; stockings at 6s. ; shirts, hunting frocks and overalls, according to the quality, in proportion to good yard wide tow cloth at 2s. 9d. per yard, one yard wide check or striped flannel at 3s. 6d. per yard. That the issuing commissaries pay into the treasury of the State, such sums as they should receive on the sale of said clothing ; and the selectmen of each town should transmit to the Assembly, in October, an account of said clothing delivered to said commissaries, and be paid for the same as said Assembly should determine. The towns to see the same properly packed and marked, with an invoice of the same. The boxes for Mr. Hubbard, to be sent to Middletown, and those for Mr. Flint, to Peekskill ; to be conveyed by the commissaries in carriages owned by the State, to the Connecticut battalions ; with liberty given to such as

wished, to send to their friends in the army, to put up such articles as they should think proper, and mark and direct the same, and put in the general package, to be delivered to whom directed.

An order on the pay table was given in favor of Gen. Jabez Huntington, for money advanced by him, for the sum of £103 : 10 : 9.

An order was drawn on the pay table in favor of Benjamin Huntington, Esq., for sums advanced, and his trouble in settling Capt. William Coit's account, for the sum of £23 : 14 : 6.

Maj. William Hillhouse produced a receipt of £13 : 10 for a horse and saddle sold, owned by a tory by the name of John Shepard, a transient person.

#### IN SESSION, September 13.

Capt. John Deshon was ordered to send one half the salt which arrived in the sloop Catherine, at New London, to Mr. Andrew Huntington, at Norwich ; and to store the other half in some safe place in New London, and discharge the sloop. (The whole quantity of salt about 900 bushels.)

#### IN SESSION, September 19.

It was voted, that 213 gallons of rum, the property of Martin Fosborough, 55½ gallons of rum, owned by Josiah Grant, Jr., and 108 gallons owned by Thomas Sheldon, which had been seized by Lynd Lord, sheriff of Litchfield county, by a warrant dated the 25th day of August, 1777, for the use of this State, should be released to the owners.

An order on the pay table was drawn in favor of Lynd Lord, Esq., for £100, towards the expense of the guard placed over Gov. Franklin, September 19, 1777.

Mary Vose, a resident in Colchester, the wife of Henry Vose, of Nova Scotia, then a soldier in a continental battalion from Rhode Island, stated to the Governor and Council, that she was destitute of the means of subsistence ; that she had with her three sons of the same birth, nine months old, by the names of John Hancock, George Washington, and Charles Lee. The Governor and Council sent a letter to the selectmen of Colchester, to provide said Mary all necessary subsistence, over and above her earnings and what might be provided by her husband, and lay their account before said Board.

#### IN SESSION, September 20.

It was voted, that Mrs. Ketchum's family and furniture was permitted to be exchanged for Mrs. Ritchie, wife of William Ritchie, of the State of New York, and his family, who were at Cow Neck, on Long

Island, and her household furniture ; and Gen. Silliman was directed to send a flag of truce for that purpose, at the expense of Mrs. Ketchum and Mrs. Ritchie.

William Ritchie of the State of New York, was permitted to transport out of this State, by land or water, 13 hogsheads of rum. Also Peletiah Webster to transport 5,000 pounds of sugar to Pennsylvania.

J. Huntington, sheriff, and Nathaniel Hubbard, gaoler at Windham, Windham county, exhibited their charges for the guard kept at the said gaol. The keeping the guard was approved, and referred to the pay table for settlement.

Mr. David Trumbull was desired to pay Jabez Huntington, Esq., £658 : 10 : 2, out of the continental money in his hands, and receive of him an order drawn by the pay table committee on the 23d of August, 1777, on the Treasurer of the State for that sum, endorsed over by said Huntington.

It was voted, that the sum of £9 : 17 : 7 should be paid by J. Huntington, Esq., to Thomas Lee and others, of Pomfret, for the interest of a sum due them from the State, for rum and coffee taken from them by warrants, for the use of the army. An order was drawn for the same.

It was voted, that Gen. Silliman should be directed to procure an exchange of Buchanan, Chadague, and one citizen to be furnished by the commissioner of prisoners in this State, for Samuel Parsons, Hudson English, and David Lyon, taken off by the enemy at Compo.

It was voted, that an order be given to Messrs. Henshaw & Whiting to receive of Mr. David Trumbull, at his store in Bolton, 8 barrels of

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*Expense of the Revolutionary War paid by Connecticut.*

Account expended by the State of Connecticut for carrying on the war of the Revolution, was

£6,059,859 : 06 : 03½, equal to	- - - - -	\$20,199,531 05
Paid to the State by the Gen. Government,		
£733,703 : 17 : 11, equal to	- - - - -	\$2,445,679 65
£5,326,155 : 08 : 04½		\$17,753,851 40

Leaving a balance in favor of the State at the close of the war, of seventeen millions seven hundred and fifty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty-one dollars and forty cents : from which take the State's quota, and the remainder was funded at 2½ cents on the dollar.

Mr. Huntington, the comptroller of this State in 1834, devoted three months at least, in ascertaining the amount above ; which computation does not include the immense expense borne by towns and individuals, which were never paid by the State or the United States.

pork ; and to receive of Elijah Hubbard, of Middletown, 1 hogshead of New England rum, for the furnace at Salisbury.

David Trumbull was desired to send an ox team to Boston, to bring to Connecticut a hogshead of shoes, and such other articles as should be ordered.

IN SESSION, September 22.

The brig Defence, in the port at Boston, was ordered to be rigged into a ship.

Samuel Elliot, Jr., of Boston, agent for Connecticut, was ordered to provide sufficient spars, rigging, and duck, for rigging the brig Defence into a ship, (the property of this State.)

IN SESSION, September 23.

The General Assembly, on the 13th day of August, 1777, resolved to raise a regiment by voluntary enlistment, to serve in the northern department, or elsewhere ; and appointed Samuel McLellan, colonel ; Noah Phelps, lieutenant colonel ; and Bezaleel Beebe, major of said regiment ; and resolved, that the Governor and Council should have power to give all necessary orders for raising the same, if necessary, in the recess of the General Assembly. It was therefore resolved, by the Governor and Council, that one regiment should be raised to serve in Rhode Island or parts adjacent, to consist of nine companies of 90 men each, the officers included, to be commanded by the officers aforesaid ; and to continue in service 31 days from the time they should arrive at the place of general rendezvous, unless sooner dismissed ; with the same wages, pay, &c., as were allowed to the continental troops raised in Connecticut ; and a bounty of 48s. allowed to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, if they provided themselves with blankets and knapsacks ; and a further bounty of 4s. to such as provided themselves with cartouch boxes and bayonet belts.

A permit was given to Benjamin Walworth, of Goshen, in the State of New York, to carry from Hartford to said Goshen, 36 bushels of salt he purchased at Martha's Vineyard.

An order was given on Elderkin & Wales for 300 pounds of powder, to be delivered to the selectmen of New London, to supply the town stock, and the selectmen made accountable.

IN SESSION, September 24.

Elizur Burnham, of Pittsfield, in Massachusetts, was permitted to transport from Norwich to said Pittsfield, one hogshead of West India rum.

An order was drawn on Capt. Russel Woodbridge, to deliver to



Maj. Samuel Nichols, of Philadelphia, 10 chests of continental arms in said Woodbridge's custody, brought from Springfield.

David Trumbull, Esq., was desired to forward for the supply of the militia from Connecticut in the northern army, 5 hogshead of New England rum, and so much sugar as would make loads for three ox teams, and deliver the same to Col's. Cook and Lattimer.

Lieut. Col. Return Jonathan Meigs was appointed colonel of a regiment of continental troops raised in Connecticut, in the place of Col. William Douglass, deceased. (Certificate delivered to Maj. Holding.)

The General Assembly had directed that a recruiting officer to enlist men for the continental army, and to take up and secure deserters, should be appointed in each of the brigades of militia in the State ; and directed the Governor and Council to appoint such officers, and affix their place of rendezvous for said recruits in each brigade. The Governor and Council therefore resolved, that Maj. James Lockwood was appointed a recruiting officer in the limits of the 1st brigade, Capt. Miles Johnson in the 2d, Capt. Jeremiah Halsey in the 3d, Maj. Elijah Abell in the 4th, Maj. John Ripley in the 5th, and Maj. Bezaleel Beebe in the 6th brigade of militia in this State ; and that the town of Wethersfield, in the 1st brigade, Wallingford in the 2d, Preston in the 3d, Fairfield in the 4th, Windham in the 5th, and Litchfield in the 6th, were appointed the places of rendezvous in said brigades.

IN Session, September 25.

Col. John Ely was empowered by the Governor and Council, to raise a company of 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 50 non-commissioned officers and privates, to serve as watermen, and by land in the expedition against Rhode Island ; with the same pay, subsistence, and refreshments as was allowed the continental troops raised in Connecticut, with 48s. bounty, for such as provided their own blankets and knapsacks ; and 4s. for a gun and bayonet ; also 4s. for such as provided their own cartouch boxes and bayonet belts.

It was voted, that a lieutenant and 24 privates, with other suitable officers, should be detached from the matross companies at New London and Groton, to proceed with the wrought iron field pieces, at Norwich, with suitable horses and harnesses, from New London to the State of Rhode Island, and to assist in the descent upon the island of Rhode Island, under the command of Col. John Ely ; and Col. Ely was ordered to make such detachment accordingly.

An order of £1,000 was given by the pay table on the Treasurer, in favor of Col. Ely, for the use of the regiment under his command.

The Governor was desired by the Council to order the prisoners



taken by Capt. Seth Harding, in the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, in the service of this State, in the prize ship *Weymouth*, and in the prize brigantine *Honor*, to be sent, under proper guards, to Connecticut and kept, to be disposed of for the redemption of the subjects of the State in the hands of the enemy.

The Governor and Council approved of the conduct of Capt. Harding in discharging a part of the crew of the *Oliver Cromwell*. And the Governor and Council desired his Excellency to order Capt. Harding to discharge as many of the mariners and marines who belonged to said ship as could be conveniently spared, reserving enough to refit said ship, and prepare her for another cruise. His Excellency was also desired to order the *Oliver Cromwell* refitted, graved, and prepared for sea, with all convenient despatch.

An order of £810 was drawn for Col. Samuel McLellan, to be by him delivered to the captains in the regiment then ordered to be raised under his command, and by said captains paid to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who should enlist, at 20s. each, in advance.

Seth Grosvenor was appointed captain ; Elisha Downer, 1st lieutenant ; Isaac Hyde, 2d lieutenant ; and Robert Sessions, ensign of a company in a regiment then ordered to be raised, and under the command of Col. S. McLellan.

Ebenezer Witter, Jr. was appointed captain ; Alpheus Chapman, 1st lieutenant ; Moses Porter, 2d lieutenant ; and Jonas Morgan, ensign of said company, under Col. McLellan. Also, William Lyon, captain ; Jacob Dresser, 1st lieutenant ; Isacher Bates, 2d lieutenant of another company. Also, Abner Robinson, captain ; Samuel Campbell, 1st lieutenant ; Joseph Coy, 2d lieutenant ; and Abijah Fuller, ensign of a company. Aaron Austin, captain ; James Clark, 1st lieutenant ; Titus Bunnel, 2d lieutenant. Isaac Gallup, captain ; Reuben Hewit, 1st lieutenant ; Libbeus Chapman, 2d lieutenant ; and George Gallup, ensign. John Vaughan, captain ; John Tennant, 1st lieutenant ; Durius Waterman, 2d lieutenant ; and Abraham Bliss, ensign. Israel Converse, captain ; Oliver Hubbard, 1st lieutenant ; Timothy Wadsworth, 2d lieutenant ; and John Lathrop, ensign. Amasa Mills, captain ; Abraham Wright, 1st lieutenant ; Benjamin Holcomb, 2d lieutenant ; and George Wolcott, ensign, in the companies in a battalion ordered raised under the command of Col. McLellan.

#### IN SESSION, September 26.

A permit was given to Dennis Sweeny, with two others, to pass through this State with 8 hogsheads of sugar, on the way to Philadelphia, from Boston.

Jonathan Nichols, of Mansfield, was permitted to transport by land to Boston, 800 pounds of rye flour, 600 pounds of wheat flour, 400 pounds of cheese, and 200 pounds of butter, to exchange for iron and steel. Also a permit given to Stephen Brigham, of Mansfield, to transport to Boston, to exchange for salt, 1 ton of wheat flour, 1 ton of rye flour, 1,400 pounds of cheese, and 600 pounds of butter. Also a permit given to Nathaniel Williams and Stephen Brigham, to drive to Boston 40 fat cattle, and 250 fat sheep.

It was voted, that Maj. Gen. Huntington should be desired to cause to be made up 15,000 musket cartridges, fitted to the new French arms provided for the use of the continental army, and pack them in bunches of 18 cartridges each, and lodge them in some safe place in the town of Plainfield.

The small arms from Springfield, then in Lebanon, were ordered examined, cleansed, repaired, branded, and fitted for immediate use.

The selectmen of Milford, shewed the Governor and Council, that the company at the post at Milford, was destitute of a commissioned officer, and that more men were needed there. Therefore, Capt. Benjamin Hine was appointed to take the command at the fort at Milford, in the rank and pay of a lieutenant; and to enlist six men in addition to the number then on duty there; to continue in service until the 1st day of January, 1778; to keep up necessary guards, and employ the men in the fortification as constant as might be.

Nehemiah Brainard was established captain; William Smith, lieutenant; and Nathan Tyler, ensign of the 3d alarm list company, in the 7th regiment of militia.

Christopher Brown was established captain, and Joshua Whitford, ensign of the 6th military company, in Stonington, in the 8th regiment of militia.

Elderkin & Wales were directed to deliver to Capt. Daniel Tyler, of Pomfret, 25 pounds of cannon powder, to prove the field pieces at said Pomfret. The order delivered to Uriah Holt.

Brig. Gen. John Douglass was appointed to take the command of the troops raised, and ordered on an expedition to Rhode Island.

#### IN SESSION, September 27.

A permit was granted to Andrew Craig, of Voluntown, to transport by land, to Bedford, in Massachusetts, 1 ton of cheese, and 500 pounds of butter, to exchange for salt. Also a permit was given to Benjamin Henshaw, to transport from this State to the West Indies, 40 barrels of flour, in the schooner Elizabeth. Also a permit was given to Thomas Lewis, of Norwich, to transport by land, to Providence, 70 bushels of oats, to exchange for salt.

Liberty was given to Benjamin Henshaw, to purchase of the managers of Salisbury furnace, 6 swivel guns for his own use.

Elijah Hubbard, Esq., was directed to deliver to Benjamin Henshaw, one hogshead of New England rum, for the use of the furnace at Salisbury.

The Governor was desired by his Council, to give orders to Gen. Tyler, to detach from his brigade, 1 lieutenant colonel, 3 captains, 4 lieutenants, 3 ensigns, and 330 men, including non-commissioned officers, to serve until the 15th day of November, 1777, unless sooner discharged. And to direct the lieutenant colonel, 2 captains, 2 lieutenants, and 2 ensigns, with 200 men, with a proper proportion of non-commissioned officers included, to take post in and about fort Trumbull, at New London; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 1 ensign, with 100 men, including non-commissioned officers, as aforesaid, to take post at Groton fort; and 1 lieutenant, with 30 men, including officers as aforesaid, to take post at Stonington; and to direct the commanding officer to carry on the works at the fortifications at New London and Groton, in the best manner he could.

Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., was appointed to provide eight ox teams to transport the baggage of Col. Ely's regiment from Groton, to such part of Rhode Island as said Ledyard should direct; and procure continental provisions for them for 8 days, and if he could not otherwise provide for them, to call on Andrew Huntington, of Norwich. And Andrew Huntington was directed to deliver said provisions to said Ledyard, for the supply of said troops. Said Huntington was also desired to distil 20 hogsheads of the molasses in the custody of Capt. Perkins, owned by this State, into New England rum.

IN SESSION, September 29.

Nathaniel Backus, Jonathan Lester, and Joshua Norman, of Norwich, with the consent of Capt. Robert Niles, commander of the armed schooner Spy, were appointed to appraise the sloop Dolphin and appurtenances, (then) lately taken by Capt. Niles, on a cruise on board said schooner against the British.

John Ripley was appointed major of brigade, to the brigade under Brig. Gen. Douglass in the intended expedition to Rhode Island.

IN SESSION, September 30.

Permission was given to Capt. William Coit, to transport by land, to the State of Massachusetts, 25 barrels of flour, and 8 or 10 fat oxen.

It was voted, that Capt. Robert Niles' account for wages of his officers and crew of the armed schooner Spy, provisions, and repairs, &c., should be referred to the committee of pay table for adjustment,

&c. Capt. Niles had received of Mr. Sherman, \$750 out of \$1,000 granted by Congress, to be accounted for by Mr. Sherman. The last balance to said Niles was paid by an order on Prosper Wetmore, Esq., of New London, and one other order on said Wetmore for £100.

The Governor with the advice of the Council of Safety, ordered John Shipman, Esq., lieutenant at the fort at Saybrook, to immediately raise by voluntary enlistment, 20 able bodied men, to serve as a guard at the fort at Saybrook, until the 30th day of November, 1777, unless sooner discharged ; to be entitled to the same wages, &c., as the continental troops were ; and in case he could not raise them by enlistment, to advise the Governor thereof, that further orders might be had. The order was sent to Col. Ely, and forwarded to Lieut. Shipman by him.

Mr. Elliot was appointed surgeon's mate in the battalion under Col. John Ely.

The Governor and Council approved of the orders of Gen. Silliman, for the marching of one-fourth part of the 4th and 9th regiments of militia, to rendezvous at Horse Neck, under the command of Col. John Mead and Maj. Abel, for the defence of the adjacent country.

A permit was given to the selectmen of Norfolk, to transport to Boston, 2,000 pounds of flour, to be exchanged for salt.

The Governor was desired by the Council, to issue orders to Brig. Gen. Erastus Wolcott, forthwith, to draft from the 1st brigade in the State, 300 able bodied men, including officers, and cause them to be well equipped, with arms, &c. And to issue orders to Brig. Gen. A. Ward, forthwith, to draft 300 like men, including proper officers, from the 2d brigade in this State, and cause them to be equipped, with arms, &c. And the brigadier generals were directed to form them into one regiment, and give orders for them to march, with all convenient speed, to Peekskill, to act in conjunction with the continental troops under Maj. Gen. Putnam, for the defence of this and the United States ; to be held in said service two months after their arrival at Peekskill, unless sooner discharged. And Brig. Gen. Wolcott was to be directed to give orders to one colonel and one major in his brigade, to march with and take the command in said battalion. And that Gen. Ward should give orders to one lieutenant colonel of his brigade, to march with and take command as lieutenant colonel of said battalion.

Benjamin Huntington, Esq., was appointed to receive the journals of this Board, and to collect accounts of all the articles proper therefor, as soon as might be, and provide himself needful assistance.

IN SESSION, October 3.

Sarg't. Elihu Avery was appointed lieutenant fire worker in Maj.

William Ledyard's company of artillery in the State service, instead of Lieut. Latham, deceased.

Andrew Huntington, Esq., was directed to deliver one hogshead of New England rum to William Ledyard, Esq., commissary at Groton, and one hogshead of New England rum to Edward Hallam, at New London, for the troops there.

It was resolved, that orders should be given to Brig. Gen. Douglass, to march on Monday (then) next, to Providence, and there put himself under the command of Maj. Gen. Spencer. (Order given October 4th, 1777.)

A resolution passed for Col. Ely's direction to march at the same time to the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, by the route directed by Gen. Spencer, and place himself and his regiment under Maj. Gen. Spencer. (Order given October 4th, 1777.)

It was resolved, that the service of those who enlisted into Col. McLellan's regiment, should be considered to them as a tour of duty.

A company of artillery of 34 men, including officers, were ordered to be raised within the 20th regiment of militia, in this State. The non-commissioned officers and privates to be raised by voluntary enlistment; to exercise the field pieces, mounted on carriages in Norwich, and to manage them in case of invasion or attack by the enemy, and be subject to the orders of the Captain General, and their other superior officers, and the field officers of said regiment; and excused from all other military duty while continued in said company. The Governor and Council to appoint the captain and lieutenant; the other officers of said company to be appointed by the company, and to fill future vacancies also. Jacob Dewitt was appointed captain, and Isaac Abel was appointed lieutenant of said company. The Governor was desired to grant them their commissions, and give orders accordingly.

Voted, to give an order on J. Lawrence, Esq., treasurer, for 500 pounds of powder, to prove cannon at Salisbury furnace. Delivered to Mr. Henshaw.

Voted, to give an order on Mr. David Trumbull, to deliver Benjamin Henshaw 5 barrels of pork, and 2 barrels of beef, for the same number delivered to the overseers of the furnace.

David Trumbull was directed to deliver to Mr. Nathaniel Wales, 32½ pounds of ten penny nails, at a reasonable price.

Orders were given to Brig. Gen's. Erastus Wolcott, Andrew Ward, and G. S. Silliman, to forward the detachments ordered from their brigades to Peckskill, under the command of Gen. Silliman, with all possible despatch, without regard to fines. Similar orders were given to the colonel commandant of Gen. Oliver Wolcott's brigade. The above orders were given by an application from Gen. Putnam, by Col. Root, who represented to the Governor and Council, the preparations

and disposition of the enemy at New York, to be such as threatened an attack upon them at Peekskill soon. (Orders were given to Col. McLellan as on file.

IN SESSION, October 4.

Orders were given by the Governor, to Gen. Douglass and Col. McLellan, respecting their march to Gen. Spencer's head quarters.

Benjamin Huntington was applied to by the sheriff and gaol keeper, John Barney, Jr., for flour to support the prisoners in gaol, and those taken by Capt. Seth Harding; and stated they could not possibly obtain flour from the farmers; and that the prisoners in gaol had suffered with hunger for want of bread; and he had presumed to give an order on Elijah Lathrop, to deliver to said Barney, two barrels of the public flour in his hands, (as loaned, to be replaced in a short time.)

IN SESSION, (at Hartford) October 13.

David Trumbull was directed to settle the accounts and expenses of bringing into this State, Capt. William Judd, of the Antelope, Capt. Flinn, of the Weymouth, with the other prisoners taken in the Weymouth, by Capt. Harding in the ship Oliver Cromwell, and pay said expenses. And that said Trumbull should be reimbursed such sum as he should so pay, from the public treasury.

IN SESSION, October 15.

Capt. Robert Niles was directed to borrow of Maj. Joshua Huntington, a suitable stick for a mast for the sloop Dolphin, and a similar stick provided and delivered to said Huntington in return.

The Governor was desired to give a letter of credit of £5,000 sterling, to purchase articles for the use of this State, agreeable to such instructions as should be given Capt. Niles for that purpose.

The committee of pay table were directed to draw an order on the Treasurer of this State, in favor of Roger Sherman, Esq., for the sum of \$750; which sum had been loaned at Philadelphia, April 5th, 1777, of said Sherman, by Capt. R. Niles, to purchase flour for this State.

The managers of the Salisbury furnace were directed to hire eight teams for the use of said furnace, and pay for them as they should judge best for the State. Col. Charles Burrall was directed to order such guard as he should judge necessary for the security of the furnace at Salisbury, and to give such orders as should be necessary for their regulation and the security of the furnace, until further orders.

Mr. David Trumbull was directed to deliver to the managers of Salisbury furnace, all the woolen cloth, and one half of the flannel and baize in his hands, taken by the vessels of war owned by this State, to be improved by said managers for the workmen at the furnace. The

said managers were directed to cast a quantity of grape shot, at their discretion.

Benjamin Huntington, Esq., was directed to fit the schooner *Spy*, of this State, for sea.

Zebediah Smith, of Norwich, was appointed lieutenant and commander of the schooner *Spy*; and was ordered to enlist a suitable number of seamen and marines for cruising in Long Island sound, and to take the command of said schooner and proceed on a cruise, until some person should be appointed captain of her.

IN SESSION, October 17.

Orders were given to Gen. Erastus Wolcott, on the selectmen of Windsor, for 400 pounds of lead in their hands, owned by the State, to be made into cartridges; and an order on Elderkin & Wales for 300 pounds of gun powder, to be made into cartridges for his brigade.

Jabez Hamlin and Titus Hosmer, Esq's., were appointed by the Governor and Council to treat with Mrs. Mary Alsop and Mr. Nathaniel Shailer, upon the terms on which they would sell or loan their gin still, worm and works in Chatham, and report to the Board.

IN SESSION, October 20.

Ebenezer Jewit, of Norwich, was permitted to carry out of this State, one load of grain, to consist of one half oats, not to exceed £15, to purchase dye stuff.

Capt. J. Perkins, of Norwich, was directed to pay to Benjamin Huntington, Esq., £100 of the public money in his hands, for advanced wages of the crew to be shipped on board the *Spy*, and other necessary purposes for fitting said schooner for sea.

Capt. William Hubbard was directed to deliver to Benjamin Huntington, Esq., two barrels of pork said Hubbard owed the State, for the use of the schooner *Spy*.

Mrs. Phebe Halsted was permitted to go to the city of New York with her family and effects, under the directions of the Governor. Mrs. Elizabeth F...h, at Norwalk, was permitted to go to the city of New York; also Sarah Cowdry was permitted to go to her parents, in the city of New York, to get her support, and remain there, under the directions of the Governor.

Upon the petition of Capt. John Longstreet, Capt. Garrit Keating, John Barberiff, Capt. John Whrockmorton, William Patterson, Surgeon John Prolias, Ensign Charles Stockton, prisoners of war, prayed the Governor and Council for liberty for one of them to go to the city of New York, to procure clothing and other necessary articles for them, and procure an exchange of one of the United States' officers there, as the Governor might direct. It was voted, that either of said captains,



as they should agree, might go to the city of New York for the purposes aforesaid, on his parole to return, and not give any intelligence, or prejudice the United States ; and that the captain who should go, should be at liberty to procure his exchange for Capt. Caleb Trowbridge, of this State, then a prisoner at New York, under such directions as the Governor should give.

IN SESSION, October 22.

Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., of Boston, in Massachusetts, was appointed agent for Connecticut, in all maritime affairs, vessels of war, and captures of the enemy's vessels, &c., in Massachusetts. The Governor was desired to send him a commission for said purpose.

IN SESSION, October 23.

Consulted about the gin distillery, as to the best method for the State to manage it, and adjourned.

IN SESSION, October 24.

Voted, to refer the matter relative to taking the gin distillery into the use of the State, to the General Assembly.

Voted, to refer the matter as to the two bolts of duck, taken from Mr. Saltonstall, for them to determine the price.

Mr. Elijah Hubbard was directed to deliver to the overseers of the lead mines, 400 pounds of wheat flour, to replace what had been borrowed for the miners ; and to supply them with so much flour as they might need, to supply said miners.

It was resolved, that John Lawrence, Esq., Treasurer of this State, should be directed to receive of Thomas Mumford, Esq., agent of the secret committee of Congress, the money for 8,640 pounds of gun powder, at 5s. 4d. per pound, in part of what this State loaned the United States at the request of Gen. Washington, when at Cambridge, in 1775-6.

The Council consulted further on the subject of the distillery ; about the prisoners going to New York ; and with the commissary of continental prisoners, about his erecting barracks in this State, for the purposes of the war.

IN SESSION, October 28.

Several petitions for permits were referred to the General Assembly.

IN SESSION, October 29.

Thomas Mumford, Esq. was directed to examine the state and circumstances of a certain large prize ship, then in New London harbor, whether she was fit to be used as a prize ship, and if so, to treat with



the owner of her, for the purchase or hire of her for that purpose ; get his terms, and report to the Board, with his opinion of the ship, as soon as might be.

IN SESSION, October 30.

An order was drawn in favor of Maj. Nathaniel Saltonstall, for £300, for the matross company under his command.

Elderkin & Wales were requested to send 500 pounds of powder to the care of Gen. Huntington ; 300 pounds for N. Saltonstall, and 200 pounds for Maj. William Ledyard, for the use of the forts at New London and Groton.

Capt. John Barnes, of Middletown, was appointed an issuing commissary for this State.

Benjamin Huntington, Esq. was appointed to settle the expense that had arisen on the sloop Dolphin, taken by Capt. Robert Niles, viz. : the expense of the trial and otherwise, and the cargo of wood, and what was due the captors, and whether an appeal had been taken, and report to the Governor and Council.

It was voted, that the following towns should have orders to receive their proportions of State salt, at Dartmouth, viz. : New Haven, 138 bushels ; Milford, 35 ; Branford, 34 ; Guilford, 48 ; Killingworth, 33 ; Saybrook, 44 ; Lyme, 68 bushels.

Edward Hallam, commissary of our troops stationed at New London, had liberty to receive 20 bushels of the State salt, in the store of Capt. Deshon, at New London, for the use of said troops.

The Governor gave an order to the selectmen of Norfolk, on Doolittle & Co., for 100 pounds of musket powder. (Order delivered to Mr. Walter.)

IN SESSION, October 31.

An order was given to the selectmen of Norwalk, to receive of Samuel Elliot, Jr., 73 bushels of State salt, at Dartmouth. An order also to the selectmen of Greenwich, for 46½ bushels of salt, to be received at Dartmouth, of Mr. Elliot. The two last orders were delivered to Col. Davenport. The orders for Branford and New Haven, were delivered to Roger Sherman, Esq., with an order for the selectmen in each case to pay storage.

IN SESSION, November 3.

It was resolved, that at least one-half of the cannon at the foundry, at Salisbury, should be exchanged for West India goods, cloths, or other imported articles necessary for the army ; and the remainder in bills of credit of this State or the United States. The cannon to be

sold at the price sold for last year, and the articles received in payment at the prices fixed by law.

The Treasurer of the State was ordered to deliver to the overseers of the cannon foundry, at Salisbury, 400 pounds of cannon powder, for use there.

The overseers of the cannon foundry, at Salisbury, were ordered not to dispose of any more pig iron than what they had engaged, unless on special orders given.

Mrs. Glin, the wife of the (then) late contractor, was permitted to go to New York in a flag ship; and Peggy, the wife of Mr. Henry, and her two children; and Polly Bane and three children, were permitted to return to New York in flags, and the Governor was desired to give necessary orders.

IN SESSION, November 4.

An order was given in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., commissary to provide for the troops at Groton, for the sum of £1,500, lawful money, to provide for said troops; with an order to receive 15 bushels of salt of Capt. Deshon.

It was resolved, that Col. Marshfield Parsons should be directed to dismiss the militia under his command, stationed at New London and Groton, and parts adjacent, as soon as Col. Ely should return with his regiment to their post. And the Governor was desired to give said order.

It was voted, that the Governor should be desired to give liberty to such persons of other States, to trade by water in small boats, in salt and other necessaries wanted in this State, for the produce of this State, that the Governor should think could be reasonably spared, at legal prices.

An order was delivered by the pay table, in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, Esq., to Jonathan Ledyard, for £1,500; and another on Capt. Deshon, for 15 bushels of salt.

An order was sent by Jonathan Ledyard, to Lieut. Col. Marshfield Parsons, to disband the militia under his command.

The committee of pay table were ordered to liquidate the account for postage of the Governor for letters, &c.; and draw on the Treasurer for the same in favor of the post master.

It was represented to the Board, by a deputy commissary of prisoners for the United States, that there was a convenient place at Enfield, in this State, for keeping continental prisoners of war; that he could procure of Isaac Kibbe, a convenient house and land for that purpose, which would require some barracks and a yard to enclose it, with

pickets ; and wished advice of the Governor and Council. The Governor and Council were of opinion that the place was a proper place for said purpose, as pine boards and timber were near, and approved of the object.

IN SESSION, November 5.

It was voted, that the committee of pay table should settle the account of Capt. Ebenezer Bartram, for the balance due him for his service on board the Brig Defence, according to the common usage, and draw on the Treasurer of the State for the balance.

Lieut. Col. Thomas Seymour, of the light horse, in this State, was directed by the Governor and Council to send forward twelve of the light horse of the 1st regiment of light horse, with a proper officer, to Gen. Parsons, to be under his command for the term of two months.

The pay table were directed to settle with Elderkin & Wales for guarding the magazine of powder and salt petre, at Windham, at 12s. per day from the 9th of June, 1777, to the 5th of November, 1777 ; and draw on the Treasurer of the State for the balance.

Nathaniel Hubbard was allowed £18 : 7 : 3½ for the balance for supporting John Shepard in gaol.

An order was drawn in favor of John Trumbull, printer, for £10 : 1 for the balance of his account for printing for the State.

Capt. Isaac Bidwell, of Farmington, was permitted to carry to the State of New York, 20 bushels of salt, to exchange for iron.

The committee of pay table were directed to settle the account of Capt. Seth Harding, for the officers and crew on board the ship Oliver Cromwell, owned by the State, and to draw on the State Treasurer for the balance due said Harding and crew.

Alexander Cutler, of Litchfield, was permitted to carry out of this State, butter and cheese sufficient to purchase three tons of iron, for the use of the inhabitants of this State.

It was voted, (on the 4th of November) that Maj. Gen. Jabez Huntington, Brig. Gen. Erastus Wolcott, and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq., were appointed to repair to Providence, in Rhode Island, and there join such gentlemen as should be appointed by the States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, to enquire into the reasons and causes of the failure of the expedition formed against the island of Rhode Island, agreeable to the request of Maj. Gen. Spencer in his letters to the Governor, and make their report to the Governor. (Commissioned by the Governor.)

Col. Joseph Trumbull was appointed commissary general of this State, to purchase beef and pork for the use of the State ; provided, if

he did not undertake the duty before the Council should meet, the Governor was desired to appoint some other person.

An order was given to Chauncey Whittlesey of £33 : 5 : 10, for his balance as commissary to provide clothing.

The commissary general of this State, was directed to purchase salt, &c., for putting up provisions, under such directions as the Governor and Council should give.

Gen. Jabez Huntington was appointed to import clothing, &c., under the direction of the Governor and Council.

Elijah Hubbard, Esq., was appointed agent for this State, and directed to purchase rye, and receive the gin, and superintend the distillery at Chatham, in behalf of the State, under the direction of the Governor and Council.

The several sheriffs in this State, viz. : Williams, Wetmore, Fitch, Abel, and Lord, were directed to release such articles of West India goods as they had taken, and had in their hands by virtue of warrants from the Governor, for the use of the State.

Thomas Mumford, Esq., (on the 24th of November, 1777,) was permitted to transport 50 barrels of flour and 800 pounds of bacon, to Isaac Apes, in the West Indies.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) November 18.

Orders were sent to Gen. Silliman, by the Governor and Council to detach, and send forward to join Maj. Gen. Putnam, out of Silliman's Brigade, 200 men, properly officered, with one colonel from said brigade. Also, like orders to Gen. Oliver Wolcott, to send from his brigade the same number, properly officered, with one major. A like order to Gen. Andrew Ward, Jr., to send 200 men from his brigade, properly officered, and a lieutenant colonel ; all to join Gen. Putnam, and be subject to his command ; to serve for two months from the time they should arrive on the ground, unless sooner dismissed. A letter was sent to each of said brigadier generals enclosing said orders, which directed said brigadier generals to order said men so to be raised, and to join in and form one regiment, and march immediately and join Gen. Putnam. (Orders sent by Col. William Pitkin.)

The Governor and Council sent orders to Col. Ely, forthwith to march with his regiment, (except Lieut. Shipman,) officered as when he marched to Providence, and join Maj. Gen. Putnam, and be under his command until further orders ; with orders to commissary Hallam to provide such carriages as Col. Ely should wish to convey said regiment's baggage, by land or water, as said Ely should direct. (Orders sent by Lieut. Angel.)

Orders were sent by the Governor and Council to Gen. Tyler, to send from his brigade, (by draft,) 115 men without delay, properly officered and equipped; 50 men to be stationed at the New London posts, 30 men at the post at Groton, 20 men at Stonington, and 15 men to guard at Lyme; to serve two months from the time of their arrival at their several posts.

IN SESSION, November 25.

An order was given to the selectmen of Groton, to receive at Dartmouth, in Massachusetts, 58 bushels of (State) salt, by their paying the storage.

IN SESSION, November 27.

It was resolved, that Ensign Seth Miner, and the 15 men ordered by Gen. Tyler to keep guard at Lyme, be dismissed from said service; and that the selectmen of said Lyme should raise a guard when needed.

It was resolved, that Col. Henry Champion was appointed to put up with salt 1,000 barrels of pork for this State; and to employ such persons to assist him as he should judge necessary.

Voted, to draw an order on the pay table in favor of Col. Henry Champion, for £8,000 lawful money, to purchase pork for this State.

It was voted, to draw an order on William Bull, of Hartford, or the store keeper at Hartford, to deliver the salt of this State, in their hands, to Col. Champion, for salting pork for this State.

IN SESSION, November 28.

Permits were given to Chara Coleman, William Chadwick, Riley Cogswell, Thomas Clark, Pierce Gardner, &c., to dispose of their cargoes of salt.

IN SESSION, November 29.

A permit was granted to Maj. Clift, of Plainfield, and Oliver Coit, of Preston, to sell 19 or 20 fat cattle, agreeable to the laws of the State.

The committee of pay table were directed to draw an order in favor of Capt. Jabez Perkins, for £490 : 13 : 2, the sum due him as agent for the captors of the sloop Dolphin, taken by the schooner Spy.

The account exhibited to the Governor and Council by Capt. Perkins, agent for the captors of the sloop Dolphin, taken by Capt. Niles.

The sloop Dolphin sold for	-	-	-	-	£1,000 : 00 : 00
Sundries sold by Capt. Niles,	-	-	-	-	6 : 08 : 08

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£1,006 : 08 : 08

Court fees paid by said Perkins in the case of the Dolphin, £25 : 2 : 4.

Belonging one half to the State, £981 : 6 : 4, being £1,006 : 13 : 2.

Connecticut purchased said sloop Dolphin at £1,000.

The account of Andrew Huntington, for services done the State, and for clothing and other necessities purchased as commissary for the State, for the use of the soldiers of the continental army, were ordered settled by the pay table, and to draw on the Treasurer for the balance, and charge the United States for such part as was purchased for their use.

It was voted, that Col. Joseph Trumbull should be desired to purchase in Massachusetts and elsewhere, blankets and other coarse woolens, linens, stockings, shoes, and hats, for the use of this State, to supply the continental army, to the amount of £5,000, at the best rates he could, and forward the same to this State. Also to make diligent enquiry at what rate he should be able to purchase any quantities of like goods, not exceeding the sum of £10,000. Also to enquire after bills of exchange on France or Carolina, the rate of exchange ; to apply to Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., for his account with the State ; to advise relating to the two vessels of war, the Oliver Cromwell and Defence, of their situation and circumstances ; and order the Defence rigged for a ship ; and advise the Governor and Council thereof by express, or otherwise, and observe their further orders.

Mr. David Trumbull was appointed by the Governor and Council, to purchase and put up 300 barrels of pork, and 100 barrels of beef, for this State. The pork and beef to be barreled at or near Roxbury, with salt owned by this State, for the use of said State, on the best terms he should be able.

An order was drawn on the pay table in favor of Col. Joseph Trumbull, for £5,000 to purchase blankets, coarse woolens, linens, stockings, shoes, and hats for the State, to supply the continental army. (Order delivered Col. Trumbull, December 1st

IN SESSION, December 1.

An order was given to the selectmen of New London, to receive of Josiah Elliot, at Bedford, 98 bushels of salt.

An order was given to the selectmen of Stonington, to receive of Josiah Elliot, at Bedford, 90 bushels of salt. (Order delivered to William Woodbridge.)

A permit was granted to Elisha Scovil, to transport from any part of this State, four horse loads of salt, 20 yards of plain cloth, and 20 yards of flannel, to Westmoreland, for the inhabitants there.

IN SESSION, December 2.

A permit was given to Hezekiah Crowell, to sell or exchange 12 barrels of oil, 30 quintals of cod fish, 250 kegs of lamp black, and 145 bushels of salt, in this State.

Prepared and forwarded despatches to Congress, and Gen. Washington.

IN SESSION, December 3.

An order was given Capt. Samuel Mattocks, to receive of Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth, a piece of woolen cloth in his custody, for the continental army. And to receive of Mr. Payne, the various articles of clothing in his care, taken from Peleg Hyde, of Norwich, for the use of said army. Also, to deliver the clothing referred to above, to the soldiers according to appraisal, and take their receipts, and deliver them to the pay masters of regiments, or their respective captains.

Rowland Luce, of Rochester, was permitted to sell or exchange at a reasonable rate, 55 bushels of salt,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  gallons of rum, and 1 quintal of codfish, for money, flour, beef, pork, butter, cheese, or grain.

IN SESSION, December 4.

It was voted, that the Governor be desired to cause the resolutions of Congress of the 1st of November, 1777, recommending the 18th day of December, 1777, to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving through the United States, to be published, with a recommendation of a due observance thereof in this State. (Sent the proclamation to Mr. Green, to print.)

A letter was sent to Mr. Shaw, to effect an exchange of Lieut. Otway, for Capt. Palmer, and William Brooks, midshipman, and a boy, for proper persons.

An order was given to the selectmen of Lyme, to receive of Josiah Elliot, at Bedford, 68 bushels of salt.

Capt. Gideon Olmsted, of Hartford, was permitted to transport on board the sloop Sea Flower, 40 shoats to Martinico.

A permit was given to Aaron Olmsted, of Hartford, to sell 2 hogsheads of rum, 1 hogshead of sugar, 100 pounds of chocolate, and 100 pounds of coffee.

Stone Mills had permission to drive out of this State, 46 head of fat and lean cattle, to Massachusetts.

Joshua Robins, of Tolland, was permitted to transport by land, to Massachusetts, 1 firkin of butter, 600 pounds of cheese, 1,000 pounds of pork, and 1 ton of flour, to be exchanged for iron and salt.

An order was given to the selectmen of Norwich, to receive of Josiah Elliot, at Bedford, 122 bushels of salt, owned by this State.

Permission was given to Capt. Sylvanus Waterman, to go to Jamaica, to transact his mercantile business, (on parole.)

A permit was given to Thomas Coffin, of Martha's Vineyard, to sell or exchange 28 bushels of salt, 3 cwt. 3 qrs. and 14 pounds of sugar,

5 barrels of liver oil, 14 gallons of rum, 25 pounds of wool, 6 pair of stockings, and 6 pair of mittens—for 12 barrels of flour, 4 barrels of pork, 1 firkin of butter, 400 pounds of cheese, 1 hogshead of tallow, and 20 bushels of corn.

It was resolved, that Mr. Elijah Hubbard should forward, with the utmost despatch, the clothing provided by the towns for the soldiers of this State, in the continental army. And immediately send a person, by him appointed, to the several stores where said clothing had been lodged, and direct them to forward the same with the utmost despatch to the issuing commissaries to the respective regiments, to be by them delivered to the soldiers of the respective towns, from whence such clothing should be sent, under former orders. And that there should be one or more persons appointed in each county, employed forthwith, to apply to the selectmen or committee of clothing in each town, and cause to be immediately collected in such town, the various articles of clothing provided ; and the transportation paid by this State, of such articles to the army as they might think best to send on pack horses or otherwise, at the same rate as articles sent by the commissary. And in case of neglect or refusal of such selectmen or committee to transport such clothing, the persons aforesaid appointed were to send said clothes to Middletown, or other place, as commissary Hubbard should appoint, and by him to be sent immediately to the army. Roger Hooker on the west side of Connecticut river, and Elijah White on the east side of said river. In the county of Hartford, Thomas Seymour. In the county of New Haven, Capt. John Cockran, on the west of said river, and Capt. Nehemiah Waterman, Jr., on the east side of said river in New London county. William Hawley, Esq., in Fairfield county. Subaiel Abbe in the county of Windham, and Alexander Catlin in the county of Litchfield, were appointed for the purposes mentioned aforesaid, with power given to each of them to appoint suitable persons under them, if needed, to assist them.

IN SESSION, December 5.

David Trumbull was directed to exchange beef and pork, at Boston, for such quantity of salt as should be required to put up the provisions he was ordered to salt in barrels for this State, for victualing our navy there, if said exchange could be made on reasonable terms.

The Governor was desired to draw an order in favor of Maj. Nathaniel Ruggles, of Roxbury, (near Boston,) on Samuel Elliot, Jr., agent for Connecticut, at Boston, for 300 bushels of salt, owned by this State, for the purpose of curing provisions for the armed vessels



owned by this State, (then) fitting out at Boston, if said salt could not be procured by barter.

David Trumbull was directed to pay the expense of returning the teams owned by the State, from New London to Lebanon, being £4.

The Governor and Council appointed Andrew Adams, Esq. to enquire into the right of the use and improvement of the lot and barn, Col. Joshua Porter occupied, owned by Mr. Richard Smith, the owner of the furnace, lands, and appurtenances, at Salisbury ; and the matters in dispute between Col. Porter and the managers of said furnace, in behalf of this State, and report to the Governor and Council.

Col. Champion had an order on the store keeper of salt, (owned by this State,) at New London, for 200 bushels of salt to cure provisions for the State. Order delivered to Joel Jones.

Nathaniel Hovey, Jr., of Windham, was permitted to transport by land, to Rhode Island, 40 bushels of corn, 20 bushels of wheat, 30 bushels of rye, and 20 bushels of oats, to exchange for iron.

Capt. Perkins was directed to receive a box of tea, brought from Bedford to Lebanon, as though he had received it at Bedford, and a small quantity of green tea, from Boston to Lebanon, as though he had received it at Boston.

The ships of war, Oliver Cromwell and Defence, then in Boston harbor, were ordered to be immediately fitted out on a cruise against the British. And the captains of said ships of war were directed to enlist their crews, with all convenient speed, in order to proceed on their cruises. The officers, marines, and seamen on board said ships, while in said service, to be under the rules, orders, &c. prescribed by Congress for the continental navy, relative to the government of said ships, and the officers, marines, and seamen on board the same. And the officers, seamen, and marines, besides the provisions and their stipulated pay and wages, after all other necessary expenses were discharged, should be entitled to a division of one-half of all their captures, whether ships of war armed, or other vessels, their cargoes and appurtenances, legally condemned as lawful prizes, made agreeable to the rules and directions given by Congress ; and the other half to belong to this State.

#### IN SESSION, December 6.

Timothy Parker, of Norwich, was appointed captain of the ship Oliver Cromwell, of this State ; and the Governor desired to commission him as such. John Chapman, of New London, was appointed 1st lieutenant of said ship, under Capt. Parker. John Smith, of Hartford, was appointed 2d lieutenant of said ship.

The pay table were directed to draw on the Treasurer of the State, in favor of William Lax, for £35 : 9, for services due him.

IN SESSION, December 8.

A letter was received from Gen. Parsons, and answered. Also a letter from Congress by express.

Wrote to Gen. Putnam, wishing the raw hides sent to this State, for shoes for the soldiers in the continental army.

A permit was given Zachariah Gardiner, of Nantucket, to exchange in this State 133½ gallons of rum, 1 hogshead of molasses, 13 bushels of salt, and 1 barrel of sugar—for flour, corn, beef, pork, flax seed, flax, 200 pounds of cheese, and 60 pounds of butter.

An order was drawn in favor of Capt. John Skinner, of Hartford, for £30, lawful money, to send to the detachment of light-horse from his company, in service with Gen. Parsons.

Capt. Parker received his commission, and a form for enlistment.

IN SESSION, December 9.

Several matters agitated.

IN SESSION, December 10.

A flag of truce was granted for the exchange of John Tully, a prisoner of war, for John Smith, of Haddam, at New York, to be transacted by Aaron Isaacs.

The Governor was desired to write to Messrs. Otis & Andrews, of Boston, to deliver Col. Joseph Trumbull, continental clothing in their hands, to clothe 4,000 men, with trimmings—crimson, scarlet, buff, or light colors for lappels for the same, and take Col. Trumbull's receipt therefor; to get the same made up and transported to the army, and delivered to the clothier general, or to the soldiers of this State, as Gen. Washington should direct. Also to apply to said Otis & Andrews for a proportion of blankets, shirts, caps, shoes, and stockings, to be forwarded as aforesaid. It was also voted, that Col. J. Trumbull was empowered to apply to said Otis & Andrews, commissaries to purchase clothing for the continental army, and receive from them clothing sufficient for 4,000 men, and give his receipt therefor, and forward the same to Connecticut, by the teams sent to Boston for that purpose. And he was directed to cause said clothing to be made as soon as might be; and for the purpose of expediting said business, to distribute said clothing to as many towns in this State as should be necessary to have it speedily made; and when made, to forward the same to the clothier general, or to the issuing commissaries of the respective regiments which belonged to this State, for the use of the

non-commissioned officers and soldiers in the continental service, enlisted for three years, or during the war, as Gen. Washington should direct ; and to make up their accounts of the expense of making and transporting, and apply to said commissaries for payment.

David Trumbull was directed to procure and send to Boston, 20 ox or horse teams, with carts or sleds to fetch such clothing as Col. J. Trumbull had to send to this State, and delivered in such places as J. Trumbull should direct ; and to load such teams with salt in the hands of S. Elliot, Jr., as should not be needed for transporting said clothing.

George West was permitted to exchange a quantity of salt, rum, wool, &c., for country produce, to transport to Massachusetts.

Cleaveland of the same place, had a like permit.

IN SESSION, December 11.

A letter was sent to New Haven, by Mr. David Austin, regarding a difficulty that arose there with some people from Nantucket, with goods for barter in this State.

The Governor was desired to grant a license to Caleb Huntington, of Norwich, to distil from rye, the spirit called Geneva, to supply the inhabitants of the State, as far as he could ; provided he should retail the same at a reasonable price, not to exceed 15s. per gallon, during the pleasure of the Governor and Council.

Abiather Camp, of New Haven, who was confined by an order of the General Assembly, at Eastbury, prayed to be removed, either to his farm in North Branford, to his house at Wallingford, or to Glastenbury, &c. The Governor and Council gave liberty to said Camp to remove to his house in Wallingford, and there to remain within the limits of said society, where his house was situated, until farther orders.

IN SESSION, December 16.

It was resolved, that the Governor should procure 300 copies of the Articles of Confederation, then (lately) received from Congress, and order the printer to transmit one such copy to the selectmen of each town in the State, as soon as possible, and the remainder of them, to the General Assembly, at their adjourned session, at Hartford, in January, 1778.

IN SESSION, December 22.

It was voted, to draw on John Calder, of Hartford, for 50 bushels of the salt, imported by Capt. Stillman, to be delivered to the managers of the furnace, at Salisbury.

IN SESSION, December 27.

Capt. John Deshon was instructed to give orders to transport to Connecticut, 200 bushels of (State's) salt, at Bedford, by water ; and

to send an account to the Governor of the quantity of salt on hand, in Bedford, owned by this State.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Esq., was permitted to purchase the twenty 9 pounders owned by the State, in Norwich, by his paying all cost after they were taken from the foundry, at Salisbury.

It was resolved, that the selectmen of Glastenbury should supply the families of sargeant Peter Pease, Samuel Dealing, William Sm\*\*\*, and Benjamin Tucker, who were inhabitants and soldiers of said town, enlisted in the continental army, under Col. Samuel Brewer, of Massachusetts, with necessaries in the same manner as was provided by law for the families of soldiers enlisted in said army who belonged to and were in the service of the State ; and the extra expense paid by this State and charged to the State of Massachusetts ; and notice given to their Council or Assembly, and if disapproved of by their Council, to notify Gov. Trumbull, and give orders for the release of said Pease, Dealing, and others, that they might enlist into one of the regiments in this State, in continental service.

It was voted, to give James Day, lieutenant of marines of the ship Oliver Cromwell, an order on the pay table for £120, to recruit men for service on board said ship.

The Governor laid before the Council, a letter of the 23d of December, 1777, from the Governor and Council of War of the State of Rhode Island, which shewed the great danger the town of Providence was in from the ships of war in the harbor of Newport, and the army of the enemy there ; that they had good intelligence, that a body of 750 men were prepared, and about to embark with a design, as supposed, to burn the town of Providence, and destroy the vessels lying there unarmed. Also that the term of service of the troops there would expire on the 1st of January, 1778, and earnestly pressed for the aid which they claimed had been stipulated by Connecticut for their defence, and they had stood in need of, but at no time as much as at the date of the letter. The Governor and Council ordered 500 men, including officers, to be forthwith detached from the 1st and 5th brigades of militia in the State, and marched to Providence, without delay, under one colonel and one major, to consist of five companies, of one hundred men each, with officers included ; officered out of the militia officers by designation of the respective brigadier generals ; that 400 of said men be detached according to law, from the 5th brigade, under Gen. Douglass ; and the two field officers designated by him ; also, the necessary officers of the respective companies. And the other 100 men to be detached from the 1st brigade, under Gen. Erastus Wolcott, and the officers designated by him, and properly armed, &c., under the com-

mand of said field officers, to march to Providence, and there be placed under the command of Maj. Gen. Spencer, or the commander-in-chief on that station; to serve two months after their arrival at the place of their destination, unless sooner discharged; with the pay, rations, wages, and encouragements by law allowed.

IN SESSION, (at Hartford) January 9, 1778.

An order was drawn on the pay table for £500 lawful money, to be paid to Capt. Roswell Grant; £100 of which said Grant was ordered

The following scraps of historical facts and events, are extracted from the "Connecticut Gazette," published at New London, by Samuel Green, Esq., in 1777 and 1778.

New London, January 2, 1778. Last Wednesday, 16 sail of British shipping passed New London from New York. A few days previous to the above date, 130 tories from the west end of Long Island, went to Southhold, and robbed the inhabitants of money, clothing, grain, cattle, &c., and took from one man £120 in cash.

January 9, 1778. Congress recommended to the several Legislatures of the States, to call in \$5,000,000, by quarterly taxes, within the year 1778, and proportioned the sum of \$600,000 to the State of Connecticut, (only three States were directed to raise more than Connecticut.)

On the last Sabbath of December, 1777, a contribution was taken up in the several parishes of Norwich, for the benefit of the officers and soldiers who belonged to said town; when they collected 386 pair of stockings, 227 pair of shoes, 118 shirts, 78 jackets, 48 pair of overalls, 208 pair of mittens, 11 buff caps, 15 pair of breeches, 9 coats, 22 rifle frocks, 19 handkerchiefs, and £258 : 17 : 8 in money, which was forwarded to the army. Also collected a quantity of pork, cheese, wheat, rye, Indian corn, sugar, rice, flax, wood, &c. &c., to be distributed to the needy families of the officers and soldiers. The whole of which amounted to the sum of £1,400.

New London, January 16, 1778. Capt. Daniel Deshon, (in the late armed brig Defence) was taken and carried into Jamaica. Last Sabbath a flag of truce sailed from New London for New York with British prisoners for exchange. The same evening a brig from Providence, bound to New London, was drove on Wickapeset reef by two British ships, who hulled her 16 times, and fired a great number of shot through her rigging, but the brig soon got off the reef and run into Stonington.

On the 25th of December, 1777, Lieut. David Barber, of Groton, with another officer, walked a few miles from the camp at Saw Pitts; and on their return, a party of tories concealed, rose and fired at them with buck shot, and killed Lieut. Barber by a shot through his body; he died immediately. The tories robbed him of his money and escaped. He sustained a high reputation in the army, of a bold and good officer.

New Haven, January 14, 1778. Thursday the green coats, taken near Tarrytown, New York, passed through New Haven, (52 in number) under guard, on

to pay to his company ordered to Rhode Island, under Gen. Spencer; the other £400 to be paid by said Grant to Gen. Douglass, to be by him paid to four companies raised in his brigade, and ordered to Rhode Island, under Gen. Spencer.

Gen. John Douglass was directed to provide sufficient teams and carriages to transport the baggage of the four companies of soldiers, ordered raised in, and marched from his brigade, to Providence.

Capt. Roswell Grant was ordered to provide necessary teams and carriages to transport the baggage of his company to Providence.

their way to Hartford; 27 of whom were taken by Capt. Eli Leavenworth, who with a party of 27, surrounded more than 30 of the enemy, killed 3, wounded 3 or 4; among the prisoners was the noted Capt. Barnea, and his Lieut. Hunt, a New Yorker. Capt. Leavenworth had one man slightly wounded.

New London, January 23, 1778. The frigate Alfred, (Elisha Hinman, captain,) owned by the United States, carried two prize ships into France, and sold them.

New London, February 6, 1778. On Friday, two British ships went up the sound from the east, one of them came nearly within the light house towards New London. News arrived in New London that the enemy at Newport were preparing to attack some place on the sound.

February 20, 1778. Gen. Lee drew a prize of \$500 in a lottery in New York, which he immediately distributed among the American prisoners in New York.

Six sail of British shipping were drove on shore at Long Island, on the 6th of February, one of them a frigate of 36 guns.

A boat from Long Island, bound to Connecticut river, laden with British goods, (an illicit trade) was seized by a boat of the ship Trumbull.

In February, 1778, there were 83 British ships-of-war on the American station, carrying from 64 guns to 10 guns, beside the Richmond, a bomb ship, the Juno, the Orpheus, a fire ship, the Blonde, Potens, and Venus.

New London, March 13, 1778. Previous to this time, Capt. B. Appleton, formerly of New London, in a letter of marque sloop of 12 guns, and 50 men, was taken by the Gallattaa and 2 tenders, in the latitude of Bermuda, after a running fight of 5 or 6 hours, in which the sloop was cut down nearly level with the water. Nathan Moore, of Groton, commanded her during the action. The crew were carried to Jamaica, where the officers made their escape.

Report said, that of 3,000 Americans taken at fort Washington, only about 900 of them were living.

Capt. Coit, of New London, in the privateer sloop America, in company with another sloop, took a brig from Ireland, laden with provisions, and a ship from Bristol, and carried them into Martinico.

New London, March 20, 1778. Thirty sail of British shipping were in Gardner's Bay, with some men of war.

New London, March 27, 1778. Maj. Gen. Arnold arrived at Middletown, from Albany, and not out of danger by his wound.

## IN SESSION, January 12.

An order was drawn in favor of the selectmen of Killingworth, on Josiah Elliot, of Bedford, for 33 bushels of State salt; and one in favor of the selectmen of Saybrook, for 44½ bushels of salt at said Bedford. The selectmen to pay all storage.

Lieut. Col. Larrence, was voted to be exchanged for Col. Samuel Webb; and Larrence to go to New York on his parole, and if not exchanged, to return by the 6th day of February, 1778.

The Governor was desired to write to Gov. Clinton, and inform him

Monday last, 6 ships from the westward went down Long Island sound. Same day a flag returned to New London from Newport, with American prisoners who had been in a guard ship. Michael Sage, of Middletown, died in a guard ship at Newport.

New London, March 3, 1778. On Friday night last, the continental ship Columbus, Capt. Hacker, was drove on Point Judith by two of the British ships.

New Haven, April 1, 1778. About the 20th day of March, 200 of the British troops landed under cover of a row galley and two armed sloops, on Greenwich Point, to destroy a quantity of flour, on the beach above the point, and to burn a row galley then fitting there. A small party of 15 men, from Col. Meigs' regiment, under Lieut's. Lay and Shailor, reinforced by a few of the inhabitants, attacked them, and prevented the destruction of the flour, retook most of the cattle and sheep they had taken, and extinguished the fire they had set to the galley in the harbor, and drove them off in the greatest confusion, without the loss of a man killed or wounded.

New London, April 10, 1778. Several ships passed New London on the Sabbath, towards New York.

Capt. Atwell, in a brig, and Capt. Brown, in a sloop from New Haven, were both taken by the British, and taken to the West Indies.

New London, April 24, 1778. On Saturday previous to the 14th of April, a party of 15 men, of Col. Meigs' regiment, under Lieut. Lay, crossed from Horse Neck to Long Island, and cut two sloops out of Hempstead harbor, bound to New York—one was deeply laden with wood; the other with vegetables, which they took safe to Horse Neck and unloaded; also took four prisoners. Last Tuesday a flag returned to New London, with five prisoners from Newport, exchanged for five British prisoners taken on Long Island after wood.

A man by the name of Phineas Fairbank, who had escaped in Worcester county, and lay secreted in Great Neck, in New London, and was assisted to escape to Long Island by some of the inhabitants of Great Neck, who had given great trouble to the public. Fairbank was soon after taken on Long Island, by a company of rangers, under Capt. Griffing, with important papers in his possession.

April 23, 1778. Gov. Trumbull's letter, dated April 23, 1778, in answer to a letter from Gen. William Tryon.

"Sir,—Your letter of the 17th inst., from New York, is received, with its enclosures, and the several similar packets of various addresses, with which it was accompanied.



of the condition on which the State prisoners from New York were permitted to return, and propose the exchange of Col. Ely for Col. Delancy ; or that each of them should be permitted to return to their respective abodes on parole, until exchanged.

It was voted, that a letter should be addressed to Congress, urging a general exchange of prisoners, as soon as possible.

IN SESSION, January 13.

An order in favor of Lieut. John Smith, of the Oliver Cromwell, for the sum of £150, lawful money, to pay the wages of the men he had or should enlist to serve on board said ship.

“ Propositions of Peace are usually made from the supreme authority of one contending power, to the similar authority of the other ; and the present is the first instance within my recollection, when a vague, half blank, and very indefinite draft of a bill, *once only, read before one of three bodies* of the Legislature of the Nation, has ever been addressed to the *people at large* of the opposite power, as an overture of reconciliation.

“ There was a day when even this step, from our then acknowledged parent State, might have been accepted with joy and gratitude ; but that day, Sir, is past irrevocably. The repeated, insolent rejection of our sincere and sufficiently humble petitions ; the unprovoked commencement of hostilities ; the barbarous inhumanity which has marked the provocation of the war, on your part in its several stages ; the insolence which displays itself on every petty advantage ; the cruelties which have been exercised on those unhappy men, whom the fortune of war has thrown into your hands ; all these are insuperable bars to the very idea of concluding a peace with Great Britain, on any other conditions than the most absolute and perfect independence. To the Congress of the United States of America, therefore, all proposals of this kind are to be addressed ; and you will give me leave, Sir, to say, that the present mode bears too much the marks of an insidious design, to disunite the people, and to lull us into a state of quietude and negligence of the necessary preparations for the approaching campaign. If this be the real design, it is fruitless. If peace be really the object, let your proposals be addressed properly to the proper power, and your negotiations be honorably conducted ; we shall then have some prospect of (what is the most ardent wish of every honest American,) a lasting and honorable peace.

“ The British nation may then, perhaps, find us as affectionate and valuable friends, as we now are determined and fatal enemies ; and will derive from that friendship more solid and real advantage, than the most sanguine can expect from conquest.

“ I am, Sir, your humble servant,

“ JONATHAN TRUMBULL.”

“ WILLIAM TRYON, Esq.”

New London, May 8, 1778. The American Revenue, Capt. Champlin, and Revenge, Capt. Conklin, both from New London, took the ship *Lovely-Lass*, Wade, late master, from London, with a valuable cargo, and sent her into Boston.

Last Sabbath, 21 sail of British shipping stood to the east, from Gardner's Bay, and the next day 7 sail of the enemy's shipping passed down the sound.



An order was drawn on Josiah Elliot, to deliver to the selectmen of East Haddam,  $46\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of State salt, &c. Also to deliver  $48\frac{1}{2}$  bushels to the selectmen of Guilford.

Voted, to draw an order on the committee of pay table, in favor of Col. Joseph Trumbull, for £5000, to replace the money advanced by him to Rice & Co., to procure clothing for the continental army.

IN SESSION, January 14.

Samuel Terry, of East Windsor, offered his account for 53 cartouch boxes and belts, at 11s. 6d. each, made by order of the Governor and Council, which was allowed, at £30 : 9 : 6, which were directed to be delivered to Gen. E. Wolcott, who was ordered to receive them. Also, other accounts were offered to the Board, by Lynd Lord, Esq., of Litchfield, for supporting the guard in Litchfield, on account of Gov. Franklin, and other account of services, &c., which was ordered to be liquidated by the pay table.

IN SESSION, January 15.

It was voted, that Gideon Hosford's account for transporting sick soldiers, in January, 1777, and carrying orders to Gen. Ward, amounting to £3, was referred to the pay table for adjustment, &c.

Dr. Isaac Knight's account, surgeon to Col. Ely's regiment, for medicines, &c. for said regiment, of £44 : 6 : 11, was referred to the pay table to liquidate, &c.

Capt. John Cotton was desired to procure 50 spars up Connecticut river, for masts, bowsprits, booms, and yards, for the use of this State.

Mr. Samuel Ogden, of New Jersey, was allowed to transport into this State, a quantity of rod and bar iron, to barter a part of it for salt and other West India goods.

Joseph Squire was appointed captain of marines, on board the ship Defence. Lieut. Day was appointed captain of marines, on board the ship Oliver Cromwell.

As it was evident to the Board that the quantity of salted and other provisions laid up for the continental army, within this State, would prove far short of what had been provided the preceding year, and greatly inadequate to the probable demands and necessity of the army; and as fat cattle were difficult to be obtained—it became the indispensable duty of the Board to exert every effort to procure as much of both, and on as good terms as possible. And as Col. H. Champion was considered a gentleman of great judgment, capacity, and experience in said business, especially beyond any other person in this State, and of most unexceptionable honor and integrity, and of universal acquaintance, and ability to promote the fattening of cattle, and skill in

purchasing ; the Board applied to him to undertake said business ; but he appeared to have insuperable objections, and judged it impracticable to conform strictly to some of the rules prescribed by Congress for regulating the commissary department ; but agreed, with reluctance, to exert himself for that purpose, and with fidelity to procure and purchase all the live fat cattle for said use, and to take receipts from all persons of whom he should purchase, expressing the sums received, the number and kind of cattle purchased, for which the same was paid ; and brand all such cattle with the initials of his name, and the letters C. A., (for continental army,) to be drove and delivered to such persons and places as he should be advised by the commissary general of issues, or other proper authority, (inevitable casualties excepted,) and to take his or their receipts for the same ; to be allowed a reasonable reward for his trouble and his expenses ; and to make up his account, and settle the same with the proper officers of Congress, as fast as he should be able, and to execute the whole with all fidelity, honor, and integrity. Peter Colt, deputy commissary general of purchases, was present, and earnestly desired to be excused from that part of purchases ; and for the public good, and by continuance of the resolution of Congress, authorized and appointed Col. Henry Champion, the sole purchaser of live beef cattle within the eastern department, for the use of the continental army, with power to employ such assistants as he should find necessary to execute the business. Said Champion was required to go immediately into the execution of said business, and to begin to drive by the 1st day of February (then) next. It was also resolved, that said appointment should be laid before Congress as soon as might be ; and if said Congress disapproved of it, to signify the same to the Governor of this State, when said appointment should cease. Said Colt was released from that part of his service in said department, which had been assigned to Col. Champion. It was also resolved, that one-half the draft for \$200,000, by the Hon. President Laurens, on the continental loan office in this State, (dated December 20, 1777,) in favor of the Governor and Council, was assigned to Peter Colt, Esq. ; and the other half to said Champion, and they accountable therefor.

Whereas many persons who belonged at the islands of Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and other places out of this State, had obtained permission from the Governor to barter and trade in this State, for many articles of provisions, wares, and goods, the produce of the State, in exchange for salt, and other necessaries, on certain terms and conditions ; and representation was made that all such provisions, wares, and goods were wanted for the supply of the necessities of the

inhabitants of the State, and for the use of the army of the United States, and could not be spared without material injury to both. Also that many or all such persons had been guilty of abuses in such trade, by bidding very excessive sums for articles purchased, and enhanced the already exorbitant prices of the necessities of life, to the injury of the people and the public, and bartered at unreasonable prices, and violated the spirit and terms of such permissions: It was therefore ordered, by the Governor and Council, that all permits before granted, should cease, and were declared null and void; and all persons who held them were strictly prohibited all deal, trade, or traffic in this State any farther, under the pains and penalties of the law; and were forbidden to depart from the ports or harbors of the State, with their boats or vessels, without special license from the Governor. Mr. Isaac Doolittle and Mr. Timothy Jones, Jr., of New Haven, were hereby directed to give notice hereof to any person or persons who held such permissions, by reading said order in their hearing, or by copy. It was farther provided, that Roger Sherman, William Hillhouse, and Benjamin Huntington, Esq's., or either two of them, were appointed a committee to enquire into the conduct of all persons who had traded and bartered in this State, under a permission, as to the terms, manner, prices, rate of exchange, and barter made, or bid by any such persons, of any abuses of said trust; and to bring before them any persons for the purposes aforesaid, and make their report of facts to the Governor and Council.

IN SESSION, January 18.

It was represented by Gen. Samuel H. Parsons to the Governor and Council, that a small privateer was then fitting out by the general's order, to drive small tenders and boats from the western coast, which could not be completed unless he could obtain the loan of one of the 9 pounders at New Haven, owned by the State, and prayed for the loan of said cannon; which was granted by the Governor and Council, by Gen. Parsons' giving his receipt therefor.

IN SESSION, January 19.

Capt. Jesse Leavenworth, of New Haven, under proper orders, gave his deposition respecting the evacuation of Ticonderoga. The pay table were directed to settle Capt. Leavenworth's account, and draw for the payment, and charge the same to the Continent, as the service had been done by order of the President of Congress to the Governor.

Maj. Otis, of Middletown, was permitted to transport to Massachusetts, 600 pounds of flour.

There was a quantity of clothing then in the hands of Col. Joseph Trumbull, owned by the United States, which he had received from the commissaries of clothing at Boston, for the continental army from Connecticut ; therefore Col. Trumbull was directed to deliver to the several field officers the said clothing for the use of their respective regiments, to be equitably divided according to their numbers, and take duplicate receipts for the same, to be delivered to the clothier general, according to Gen. Washington's orders ; and when so received, be forthwith made up suitable for the soldiers, and that the chief tailor or tailors in making the same for each regiment should be under oath, faithfully to make up all the cloth delivered to him or them, and to deliver the same accordingly ; to be made at the customary prices set by the commissary of clothing, and transported at continental expense, and made under the directions of the field officers.

IN SESSION, January 20.

An order was drawn in favor of the selectmen of Milford, on Josiah Elliot, at Bedford, for 25 bushels of salt.

The Governor and Council voted, to sell twelve 4 pound cannon at the furnace in Salisbury, and a quantity of steel, suitable for the same ; and the same number of swivels (if on hand) to William Hart, Jr., at the usual rate and pay.

Jemima Ellison, of Hartford, stated that she left New York a short time before the enemy took possession of it, and left some of her effects with her friends, who afterwards moved into New York with her effects ; that she had three children with her, and was likely to be reduced to want ; and asked liberty to remove with her children and effects, to New York. The Governor and Council gave permission to her to remove with her children and effects, to New York.

IN SESSION, January 23.

The pay table committee were directed to draw on the Treasurer in favor of Samuel Elliott, Jr., Esq., agent for this State, for £1,000. (Order delivered to John Wasson, clerk of the ship Defence.)

The committee of pay table were directed to draw on the Treasurer in favor of Samuel Smedley, captain of the ship Defence, for £400 in money.

Also an order in favor of Col. Noah Phelps, for £160, to enable him to transport a number of cannon from Salisbury to Boston, for the use of the ship Defence.

The accounts of the committee appointed by the Governor and Council to join the committees from Massachusetts and Rhode Island, to enquire into the reasons of the failure of the expedition formed

against Newport, was referred to the pay table for settlement and payment.

IN SESSION, January 24.

James Hall, a lieutenant of an artillery company, shewed to the Board, that he was ordered by the commander-in-chief in the northern department, to the town of Farmington, where he had just arrived with 27 men, under an expectation of taking winter quarters; and that within one or two days after his arrival he was ordered to march to Gen. Washington's head quarters; and that his men were nearly naked, and could not perform the march without endangering their lives; and asked for the following articles to be supplied his men from the State, viz. : 24 shirts, 19 pair of breeches, 30 pair of stockings, and 26 pair of shoes. The Governor and Council directed Messrs. Whittlesey and Elijah Hubbard, or either of them, to deliver said clothing to Lieut. Hall.

IN SESSION, January 26.

Nathaniel Shaw, Esq., of New London, wrote a letter to the Governor and Council, in which he stated that a French gentleman had arrived in New London with a quantity of spirits; that he had a quantity of salt at Bedford, and proposed to bring it, with a further quantity of salt, from the island of St. Peters into Connecticut, and was desirous of exporting from this State, ten fat cattle, &c. The Board resolved, that the Governor should grant a permit to Nathaniel Shaw, of New London, to export out of this State ten head of fat cattle for said purpose, to be purchased by Henry Champion, and exchanged for spirits, if the gentleman should bring the salt into this State, and would dispose of said salt, &c., upon reasonable terms to the State; and said Shaw was desired to negotiate the exchange accordingly.

IN SESSION, January 27.

The Governor was desired to permit Ezekiel Gorham, Seth Baker, and Hezekiah Crowell, from Massachusetts, who were in this State, and by permission had disposed of a part of their cargoes—to dispose of the remainder of said cargoes for money only; and to depart with such articles as they had purchased by barter or otherwise, in this or the State of New York, or such as they should purchase for money; also such part of their cargoes as were not disposed of as aforesaid.

IN SESSION, January 28.

The committee of pay table were directed to furnish Jesse Brown, (a continental express) with money necessary in that service, from time to time, and charge the United States.

IN SESSION, January 29.

Christopher Leffingwell, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> was permitted to transport out of Connecticut to his farm at Pittsfield, 3 barrels of salt, and 2 barrels of New England rum.

Walter Henderson, of Morristown, in New Jersey, was permitted to carry out of this State, 4 bushels of salt, and 4 barrels of rum, to New Jersey. And Woodbridge Little was permitted to carry to Pittsfield, 12 bushels of manufactured salt, and 3 bushels of foreign salt, &c.

An order in favor of Capt. John Cotton, of £250, was given to procure spars for the State.

It was voted, that the managers of the furnace at Salisbury, should be directed as soon as might be after they had cast the mortars ordered, to cast 6 large stoves, 6 receivers, and 12 refining pots with doors or covers, for refining sulphur, for the Hon. James Duane, of the State of New York.

IN SESSION, January 30.

The Governor and Council consulted with Mr. Colt and Col. Champion on commissary matters.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) February 4.

Consulted with Mr. Whiting regarding the furnace at Salisbury, and various other matters.

IN SESSION, February 5.

Lieut. John Smith, of the ship Oliver Cromwell, had resigned his commission, and exhibited his account for services, which amounted to to £159 : 4 : 6, which was referred to the pay table for settlement.

James Davis, of Barnstable, was permitted to transport by water into the State of Massachusetts, in the schooner Sea Flower, 8 tons of flour, 400 bushels of corn, 100 bushels of rye, 2,000 pounds of flax, and 200 pounds of cheese, by making oath and giving a bond.

Also a permit was given to Capt. John Coleman, of Nantucket, to sell in Connecticut, 1 barrel of oil, and to transport to Nantucket 20 bushels of rye, by making oath and giving a bond.

William Whiting, one of the overseers of Salisbury furnace, was directed to purchase 1 hogshead of New England rum, and 1 barrel of West India rum, for the workmen at the furnace.

Capt. James Noble was permitted to transport by land to Pittsfield, 4 barrels of clove water, and 4 barrels of New England rum, by his paying the cost that had arisen.

William Whiting was continued an overseer in carrying on the Salisbury furnace.

protection of the towns and places where stationed, and liable to be removed on any sudden emergency for the relief of any place on the sea coast in this State, by order of the General Assembly, or Governor and Council, where such place is in danger of attack. And was ordered to raise by voluntary enlistment the number of 46 able bodied men, including 2 sargeants and 2 corporals, with all speed. And as an encouragement to such as should find his own blanket to pay 12s. ; and for a good gun, bayonet, cartouch box, belt, &c., to the acceptance of his chief officer, the sum of 10s. as a premium, and 6d. a day for billeting money, from his enlistment until provided by the State, and one months pay in advance ; and all the officers and soldiers to receive the same pay, wages, &c., as had been made to soldiers in like service, in the year 1777. (Order dated at Lebanon, February 6th, 1778.) Like orders and directions were sent to the other officers on the sea coast, to New Haven and Milford, and to Capt. Shapley.

IN SESSION, February 7.

Orders of yesterday despatched, and adjourned without day, and the Council went home. Last night a violent driving snow storm.

IN SESSION, (at Hartford) February 18.

An order in favor of Samuel Elliott, Jr., Esq., of Boston, was drawn by the pay table on the Treasurer of this State, for £4,000 lawful money, to fit out as soon as possible, the ships 'Defence and Oliver Cromwell, &c., to be in account as agent for this State, and the order delivered to Robert Wasson. The Governor was desired to give the necessary sailing orders, and all necessary directions for said ships.

IN SESSION, February 21.

Capt. Elijah Hubbard, of Middletown, was ordered to procure as soon as possible, 10 ton of flour, 60 bushels of peas and beans, and forward the same to Boston, to be delivered to Samuel Elliot, Jr., and take his receipt therefor.

Jabez Fitch, of Greenwich, was appointed pay master for the regiment and forces under the command of Col. John Mead, stationed at Saw Pitts and parts adjacent.

IN SESSION, February 23.

The committee of pay table were ordered to draw on the Treasurer in favor of Ebenezer Ledyard, of Groton, for the sum of £1,000 to be in account.

IN SESSION, February 25.

The Congress of the United States requested the Governor and Council to cause the continental frigate Trumbull, then lying near the



mouth of Connecticut river, and there detained by reason of an apprehended difficulty of getting over a sand bar (called Saybrook bar) to be removed, and got over said bar, ready to proceed to sea. The Governor and Council ordered Capt. John Cotton, of Middletown, forthwith to endeavor by all practical means in his power, to cause the continental frigate to be removed over said sand bar into the harbor of New London ; to employ such help of men and materials as he should find necessary. Dudley Saltonstall, Esq., commander of said ship, and all other officers and men who belonged to said ship, were directed to render Capt. Cotton every aid and assistance in their power, to effect the important and necessary object, which Congress had so much at heart ; and Capt. Cotton was directed to use his best prudence and discretion in prosecuting the important business of preventing said ships falling into the hands of the enemy, or any other misfortune ; and to report his doings to the Governor in the premises, together with all expenses, that the same should be defrayed, and information given to Congress.

Nathan Frink, Jr. was permitted to go into New York, by a flag, to transact some business.

#### IN SESSION, February 26.

Capt. Robert Niles was directed to deliver to the Hon. William Pitkin, or order, 2 hogsheads of sulphur, and take his receipt ; and to Isaac Doolittle, of New Haven, 1 hogshead of sulphur ; and to Jedediah Elderkin, or order, 1 hogshead of sulphur ; and to Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq. 1 hogshead of sulphur, &c.

Jeremiah Ripley, of Coventry, was directed to send, under a guard, as soon as might be, 2 tons of fine powder, in his hands, and owned by the continent, to Ezekiel Chevers, Esq., commissary of artillery, at Springfield.

Col. Delancy was permitted to go to New York on his parole, and return when required ; and requesting on the part of Connecticut for the same indulgence to be granted to Col. Hart and Col. Hobby, or one of them ; and the Governor to carry the same into effect.

#### IN SESSION, February 27.

The committee of pay table were directed to draw an order on the Treasurer, in favor of Capt. John Cotton, for £100, towards defraying the expense of getting the ship Trumbull over the sand bar, at Saybrook, and charge said Cotton, for the purpose aforesaid.

The Governor and Council were made acquainted, by a private letter to one of the Council, from the Hon. Eliphalet Dyer, a member of Congress from Connecticut, that Congress had sent an express to



Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth, of this State, requesting his immediate attendance before their Body, at Yorktown, on business of much importance to the interest of the United States. And it appeared to the Governor and Council, on enquiry, that Col. Wadsworth had not received the letter which required his attendance as aforesaid. And the Governor and Council who were desirous to promote the public service in every matter, therefore earnestly recommended to advise said Wadsworth to repair as soon as possible to Yorktown, to wait upon the Hon. Congress, and attend upon the business they should have to lay before him.

By reason of the badness of the roads, the scarcity of forage, the want of oxen for fattening, to supply the army with meat, it had become extremely difficult to transport so large a quantity of salt as had been ordered to the North river ; and as a large quantity was then at or near said river—it was voted, that Peter Colt, deputy commissary general of purchases, should be advised to stop the further sending on the salt to the North river, even if it might be done with safety.

IN SESSION, February 28.

It was voted by the Governor and Council, that the Governor should be desired to write to Maj. Thomson, commanding officer of Col. Nixon's battalion, stationed at Farmington, and request him to march, with all convenient speed, to Greenwich, pursuant to Gen. Putnam's orders, with all of said regiment who were able to do duty, and leave the sick and unfit for duty at Farmington, with a proper officer to take them on when fit. And Col. Root was ordered to repair to Farmington and acquaint Maj. Thomson herewith, and enquire into the state of the regiment, and find what would be necessary to furnish the battalion to enable them to march, and report to the Governor and Council.

James and Horace Hooker stated to the Governor and Council, that they had been appointed by Isaac Foster, Esq., deputy director general, &c., to receive and store a large quantity of hospital stores for the use of the United States ; a part of which had arrived at Windsor, and the remainder daily expected ; and had received orders from said Foster to apply to the Governor for a guard, and asked for a proper guard, &c. The Governor and Council ordered Col. Roger Newbury to furnish from his regiment, in such manner as he should judge most convenient, to said James and Horace Hooker a proper guard, of 1 sargeant and 12 men, for the time being ; with power, if he should think necessary, to increase said guard to 18 men, to guard said stores until further orders ; and proper pay rolls be made and presented to the pay table for payment of the Treasurer, and charged to the United States.

Col. John Chester, of Wethersfield, and others, shewed the Governor and Council, that in January, 1778, they purchased of this State, a number of salt pans, &c., to the value of £320 : 18 : 9, and by reason of large holes in said pans, they were useless ; and they had been at great expense in transporting said pans, &c. from the furnace in Salisbury ; and asked to be released from said contract. The Governor and Council released said Chester and others from the payment of said sum ; and ordered Maj. William Williams to receive said pans, and dispose of them to the best advantage he could for this State.

IN SESSION, March 5.

The overseers of the furnace, at Salisbury, were directed by the Governor and Council, to cast a trundle head for Mr. John Gillet, of Windsor, if it would not impede the casting of cannon.

The overseers aforesaid were ordered to hire pastures for the cattle used at said furnace.

Hannah Church, of Danbury, the wife of Asa Church, (then) late of said Danbury, shewed the Governor and Council that her husband had joined the British army, and was then in New York, and that she had no estate to support her ; and prayed for liberty to go to New York to her husband. The Governor and Council gave her liberty to go to New York, with such necessary apparel as the committee of inspection of said Danbury should think proper. And Gen. Silliman was directed to grant a flag, or passport, to the said Hannah accordingly.

IN SESSION, March 6.

Joseph Beak, a refugee from New York, by reason of the British troops and their tyranny, then at New Haven, stated that by reason of losses, and high prices of provisions, &c., he was reduced and unable to support his family ; that he had several debts due him from prisoners, &c., in New York ; and wished for liberty for his wife Margaret, to go to New York, and collect said sums, and return again. N. B. The purpose of her going not to be expressed, as it might frustrate the design. The Governor and Council gave permission.

IN SESSION, March 9.

On motion of Mr. Colt and Col. Champion, it was resolved by the Governor and Council, that an order of President Laurens, dated Yorktown, January 27, 1778, on Joseph Lawrence, Esq., continental loan officer in Connecticut, for the sum of \$200,000 in favor of the Governor and Council of this State, be disposed of as follows, viz. : \$50,000 in favor of Peter Colt, deputy commissary general of provis-

ions of the eastern department ; the remaining \$150,000 in favor of Col. Champion, purchaser of beef cattle in said department. And the Governor was desired to inform Congress, or the Board of Treasury, of this disposition, that it might be entered to the debit of said Colt and Champion.

Liberty was granted to the managers of the cannon foundry, to sell to Capt. William Griswold, sixteen 4 or 6 pound cannons, the property of the State, at the rate heretofore given.

IN SESSION, (at Lebanon,) March 16.

The Governor and Council consulted on sundry matters with the French captain, Michel, arrived at New London, with a large cargo of goods, &c.

Col. McLellan consulted about his undertaking in the new ordered regiment, &c.

Capt. Niles was present, concerning his late voyage.

Gen. Wadsworth and Mr. Payne were written to, to attend on Thursday.

IN SESSION, March 20.

The Governor, by consent of the Council present, gave a commission to Griffith for a whale boat, to cruise in the sound.

The Governor, with the Council present, gave liberty to Mrs. Winthrop, on her petition, for her two sons Benjamin and Robert, to go to New York to the care of their uncle, Maj. Theriff, who had offered to take them and send them to London to be educated, under such convoy as the selectmen of New London should approve, &c.

IN SESSION, March 21st, 23d, and 24th.

Many things consulted, but there being no quorum, no votes were passed.

IN SESSION, March 25.

It was voted, that Andrew Rowland, Esq., should deliver to Mr. Edward Hallam, commissary at New London, 5 barrels of pork. Also to Capt. Samuel Squire, commissary at Fairfield, 14 barrels of beef, in part payment of the provisions due from said Rowland to this State ; and to procure as soon as might be, such quantity of salted beef and pork, and flour as was still due ; and notify the Governor and Council thereof for giving further orders thereon.

John Ireland, an inhabitant of Long Island, and there taken a prisoner in arms against the United States, and was brought to this State, was permitted to return to Long Island to procure necessary clothing, &c., by giving his parole in common form, and to return and deliver

himself to the deputy commissary general of prisoners in this State, within 30 days from the 25th day of March, 1778.

Joseph Harris, Jr., Esq., was appointed major in the battalion ordered raised in the 3d brigade in this State, in the place of Joshua Huntington, Esq., resigned.

John Ripley, Esq., was appointed major of one of the battalions ordered raised by the General Assembly, in the room of Levi Welles, resigned.

John Penfield was appointed lieutenant colonel of the battalion ordered raised as aforesaid, in the 2d brigade, in the place of James Arnold, Esq., resigned.

William Ledyard, Esq., was appointed to command the forts at New London, Groton, and Stonington, with the rank and pay of major ; to superintend the works, give proper orders about the military stores and tools in said fortifications ; to continue in service until the 1st of January, 1779.

William Latham was appointed captain of the artillery company ordered raised and stationed at Groton, for the year then ensuing, or until the 1st of January, 1779.

Youngs Ledyard was appointed 1st lieutenant of matross or artillery company, stationed at Groton. Achas Sheffield was appointed 1st lieutenant of the company of 20 men stationed at Stonington.

An order was voted to be drawn by the pay table on the Treasurer, in favor of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Esq., for £5,000, to be in account with this State, agreeable to an order added to Thomas Shaw.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., was directed to purchase of Capt. Michel, of the ship Lyon, arrived at New London from France, 750 bushels of salt, for this State, on condition he had engaged more, to release the overplus so engaged, to Mr. Colt, or any continental purchasing commissary, for the use of the United States ; and to send one-third part of what he should purchase to Norwich ; one-third to East Haddam, and the remainder to Middletown, to be lodged in proper stores, for the use of this State.

#### IN SESSION, March 26.

Letters were sent to John Deshon, Esq., respecting the getting out the ship Trumbull.

Letters were sent to Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., in answer to his by his brother, relating to goods, salt, &c.

It was voted, that the pay table, upon application of any of the proper officers of either of the six battalions (then) lately ordered raised for the defence of this State, to order such an advance of money to

them, to fill their companies or battalions, agreeable to the encouragements given by the act of Assembly for raising said battalions, and take proper security for the disposition thereof.

John Odel was appointed lieutenant of a company of artillery of 24 men, to be raised and stationed at Fairfield.

It was voted, to continue Benjamin Henshaw and William Whiting, overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, with the appurtenances, with all other buildings and estate of Richard Smith, (then late of Boston,) situated in said Salisbury, which had been ordered by the General Assembly to be improved for the use of this State ; and to obey the orders received from the General Assembly, or the Governor and Council, and be accountable for their conduct and management of the same when required. The overseers of said furnace were ordered to proceed immediately to make the necessary preparation to put said furnace in blast, for the year then ensuing, and to collect the articles necessary for that purpose, particularly to collect a sufficient quantity of ore and charcoal. To learn the prices and terms on which teams could be hired or purchased, for transporting such articles for said furnace ; and report to the Governor and Council ; and to purchase a sufficient quantity of wood as near the furnace as could be obtained, for coal. To employ a suitable number of men to carry on said business, and make the necessary provision for their subsistence. To exchange pig iron for good barrel pork, for the accommodation of the people employed. That there should be built a small house on the furnace lot, not to exceed in expense £100 lawful money, for the use of Mr. Whiting's family ; to use the house where Mr. Whiting then lived for the workmen, to lodge and work in, &c., as said managers should direct. It was found a sum was due the committee appointed to build the bridge between the towns of Canaan and Salisbury ; the Governor and Council therefore voted, that the managers should enquire into the same, and pay what they should find justly due for building said bridge, and charge the same to this State.

Messrs. Otis & Andrews, of Boston, deputy clothiers for the continental army, on request of the Governor and Council, had sent into Connecticut, cloths and trimmings to be made into garments for the continental soldiers, and requested the Governor to nominate a proper person to take the management and oversee the same properly executed. And Maj. John Bigelow was appointed to oversee the same, to collect the costs of making, and number the full suits made for the soldiers of each regiment, and exhibit them to Otis & Andrews, aforesaid, for payment ; and to apply to them for directions how to carry said clothes to the army, and to correspond with them touching said business, and pursue their instructions, or the instructions of said Board, agreeable to the desire of said Otis & Andrews ; to have commissions

on any purchases, and a reasonable allowance for his trouble in said affairs, as was offered Mr. David Trumbull. And it was voted, that the committee of pay table should draw on the Treasurer in favor of Maj. John Bigelow, superintendent aforesaid, for £200, in account with this State, to be replaced on his receipt of the same from said Otis & Andrews.

IN SESSION, March 27.

Mr. Trumbull, from New Haven, presented a petition from said town, stating their exposed situation, and great apprehensions, &c. from the enemy ; and a report of their committee approved by the town, &c. ; and prayed for a number of men to be stationed there, &c. The Governor was desired to order Thaddeus Cook, Esq., colonel of one of the battalions ordered to be raised by the General Assembly, on the 12th day of February, 1778, for the defence of this State, to forthwith detach and order two companies of his battalion, to march and take post at New Haven, for the defence thereof, and places adjacent, to be commanded by the major, and such other officers as the colonel should direct ; and said officers to be in proportion to the number of non-commissioned officers and privates ; and in case there should not be two full companies then enlisted, that said two companies be made up of such as had enlisted in any of the companies in said battalion ; but if there were not then enlisted a sufficient number to make two companies, the colonel was directed to apply to Gen. Ward, who was ordered to draft from the militia in his brigade, so many men as would be sufficient to complete the two companies ; and said militia men to be released from said service as fast as soldiers should be enlisted in said battalion and ordered to said post, at the discretion of the commanding officer on said station. And Col. Cook was further ordered to continue to send on for the defence of said post, so many officers and privates as to make three full companies.

Mr. Bradley, who was 2d lieutenant of the company of artillery, stationed at New Haven, in 1777, was appointed lieutenant of the company of matross, of 24 men, ordered by the Assembly to be stationed at New Haven.

Commissions were sent (by Col. S. Hall) to Col. Thaddeus Cook, Lieut. Col. John Penfield, and Maj. Abraham Tyler ; and blanks signed for commissioned officers of the 2d regiment ordered raised by act of Assembly.

IN SESSION, March 28.

John Shipman, Jr., was appointed lieutenant of the company of matross, of 24 men, ordered raised and stationed at Saybrook, by the General Assembly for 1778.

IN SESSION, March 30.

Commissions were sent by Col. Bradley for three of the six regiments ordered by the (then) last Assembly to be raised for the defence of this and the United States, (for Col. Mead, Col. Enos, and Col. Hooker.) And sent commissions filled, to sundry officers of the artillery companies, viz. : Lieut. Bradley, of New Haven ; Benjamin Hine, of Milford ; John Odel, of Fairfield ; William Seymour, of Norwich ; John Bean, of Stamford, and Sylvanus Marshall, of Greenwich. N. B. The commissions for Col. Thaddeus Cook's regiment were sent on the 27th, by Col. Street Hall.

John Trumbull exhibited an account for printing, of £15 ; referred to the pay table.

Thomas Fanning exhibited an account of transferring the account of the Governor and Council ten days, at 12s. per day, to be adjusted by the pay table.

An order was given to Capt. Dewitt, of Norwich, to receive of Maj. Ledyard, the two wrought iron 4 pound cannon with the apparatus, which had been removed from Norwich, by Col. Ely's regiment. The order delivered Gen. Huntington.

IN SESSION, March 31.

Capt. Jacob Dewitt was directed to provide the necessary apparatus for preparing for service the two field pieces at Norwich, mounted on carriages, and receive of Maj. Gen. Huntington a sufficient quantity of powder and balls to complete 80 cartridges, and 40 cartridges for said pieces, and 40 for the wrought iron field pieces under his care.

Paul Pinkham, of the island of Nantucket, master of the sloop Fanny, was permitted to sell in this State, 100 bushels of salt, 400 pounds of coffee, 50 gallons of rum, 9 barrels of tar, 6 of turpentine, and 160 kegs of lampblack, at the regulated prices ; and to purchase any article except provisions of every kind, and flax exceeding 1 ton weight, lard exceeding 3 firkins, leather and iron, the property of the people of this State.

Capt. Seth Harding was directed to pay to Justus Jennings, his wages for services on board the brig Defence, being £54.

Maj. Elijah Hyde, Jr., exhibited an account for the expense and wages of four light horse men, to escort Gen. Prescott from Lebanon to East Windsor, being £5 : 5 ; referred to the pay table, and charged to the United States.

It was voted, that the resolution of Congress of the 2d of March, 1778, respecting the raising of light horse in this and several other States, to serve in the (then) next campaign, &c., should be sent to the majors of the light horse in this State as soon as could be ; and a copy of said resolution enclosed to each major accordingly.



Sent by Gen. Huntington the commissions for Col. Mott's battalion, ordered by the Assembly, in February, 1778, to be raised, &c. Also the commissions of Maj. William Ledyard, as commander of the fort at New London, George Stanton, Youngs Ledyard, Capt. W. Latham, Capt. Shapley, Lieut. Richard Chapman, and Dan Dee, New London; Lieut. Achas Sheffield, for Stonington artillery companies.

IN SESSION, April 1.

The day was spent in writing letters to Congress, the Board of War, Gen. Putnam, Gen. Silliman, &c.

IN SESSION, April 2.

Mr. Samuel Fitch, issuing commissary to Col. Durkee's regiment, made his resignation to the Governor and Council, dated February, 1778, and was accepted.

The day spent in consultation, and preparing letters.

IN SESSION, April 3.

Daniel Hall, Jr., of Durham, exhibited his account, for making 50 cartouch boxes and 50 bayonet belts, of £45; delivered the same to Gen. Wadsworth.

Jeremiah Butler, of Durham, offered his account for making 20 cartouch boxes and 20 bayonet belts, of £46. The pay table drew for the same.

Orders to the following effect were sent to Col. Mott, of the 3d regiment, ordered to be raised for the defence of this and the United States. To detach from the regiment under his command, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, and 86 non-commissioned officers and privates, if such a number were enlisted, to take post at Great Neck, in New London. Also, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, and 86 non-commissioned officers and privates, to take post at Groton, for the defence of those places. And in case a sufficient number to complete two companies were not enlisted, to apply to Gen. Tyler, who was directed immediately to give orders for detaching from his brigade such number of non-commissioned officers and privates as should be wanting in Col. Mott's regiment to complete said two companies; and order the men so detached to join said companies, and stationed at New London and Groton; to continue in service until relieved by such as should enlist into said battalion, who Col. Mott was to order on for that purpose; and to make weekly returns, until further orders.

The Governor was directed to give orders to Col. Mott, to send on one company in addition to the one before ordered to New London, as soon as a sufficient number should be enlisted in the regiment under his command, with a field officer to command.



An order was given in favor of Col. William Worthington, for £200, for service, done in attempting to annoy the enemy's shipping, by order of the Governor and Council.

The account of Capt. Richard Dickinson, for services, &c., for the armed vessel, brig Minerva, owned by this State, (then) lately under the command of Capt. Giles Hall, was referred to the pay table for settlement, &c.

The Governor was desired to write to the delegates from Connecticut, in Congress, relative to Bushnell's machine, and request them to lay the same before Congress, &c.

Dr. Samuel Lee, of Windham, was discharged from the office of surgeon to Col. Durkee's regiment, in continental service; and Dr. David Adams, of Preston, appointed in his place in said regiment.

The Governor gave an order on Col. H. Champion, to deliver Col. Jonathan Fitch, 8 barrels of pork; another order on Mr. Elijah Hubbard, to deliver 1 ton of flour to Col. Fitch, for the troops stationed at New Haven. Order delivered in a letter sent by Samuel Thatcher.

Sent an answer to Capt. Levi Leavenworth as to shoes.

On motion of Ezekiel Williams, Esq., deputy commissary general of prisoners in this State, for liberty to obtain a guard over the prisoners of the United States, (then) about to be confined on board a prison ship then fitted at New London, and ready to receive the prisoners on board, agreeable to the orders of Congress. The Governor and Council resolved, that said commissary should be supplied with a guard, of 1 lieutenant, 1 sargeant, 1 corporal, and 20 privates, for guarding the said prisoners, under the direction of said commissary, at the expense of the United States; provided that said men could not be otherwise obtained, the commissary was directed to apply to Samuel Abbott, colonel of the 20th regiment of militia of this State, who was in such case, if need be, to order a detachment of as many men out of his regiment as should be wanting to complete said number for the purpose.

IN SESSION, April 20.

Sundry matters consulted, but no votes passed.

IN SESSION, April 21.

An order in favor of Samuel Elliot, Jr., Esq., agent at Boston, for £6,000, to be in account of business by said Elliot for this State, in the naval department. Said Elliot was desired to prepare his account for settlement at Hartford, during the session of the General Assembly, in May. Said Elliot was directed to sell the guns, tallow, fat, and bad bread in his hands owned by this State, to the best advantage, for the benefit of said State; and render his account as soon as might be.

Also, that said Elliot should be instructed to act his discretion to secure the stores in the State of Massachusetts owned by this State, in such manner as he should judge prudent, that they should not fall into the hands of the enemy.

It was voted, to draw on Capt. Samuel Squire, commissary, for four tons of flour, in favor of Samuel Elliot, Jun., Esq., to be replaced where borrowed by him for the use of this State.

Samuel Butt was appointed lieutenant, and Benjamin Brown, ensign of the 6th company of alarm list, in the 21st regiment of militia of this State, and were commissioned.

Jabez Stow was appointed lieutenant fire worker to the company of artillery under Capt. Adam Shaply, at New London, and commissioned.

Henry Denison, of Stonington, was appointed 2d lieutenant of the artillery company under Capt. Latham, at Groton, and commissioned.

It was resolved, that four men should be allowed, in addition to the number of artillerymen under Lieut. Sheffield, at Stonington ; and said Sheffield was ordered to enlist them.

An order was drawn on the store keeper at Preston, to deliver 12 barrels of pork, for the use of the matross at Groton and Stonington.

An order was drawn on Gen. Jabez Huntington, for about 1,200 pounds of cannon powder, in favor of William Ledyard, major of artillery, at New London, Groton, and Stonington. And ordered Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Esq., to send 400 pounds of musket powder to Maj. Ledyard, as soon as might be.

Gen. Huntington was desired to prepare apparatus for the two wrought field pieces at Norwich.

Capt. Nathan Palmer was directed to deliver to Lieut. Sheffield, as many guns, over and above the eight guns he had to arm his whole party of 24 men.

Maj. Gen. Wadsworth was directed to enquire into the state of the guards at New Haven, and dismiss the militia there, in whole or part, as he should judge best ; and to order the two companies raised in Col. Cook's regiment, to New Haven, to take the place of the militia in service there ; and order the next company raised in those parts to Guilford, to guard the coast of that town, as he should judge best, till further orders.

Capt. Niles, of the Spy, and Capt. Smith, of the Dolphin, were ordered to immediately refit said vessels.

Capt. Robert Niles was appointed to the command of the sloop Dolphin ; and was ordered forthwith to refit her for sea, and engage seamen necessary to man her for a merchant voyage to the West Indies, with such loading as should be prepared.

Capt. Zebadiah Smith was ordered to refit for sea, the schooner Spy, and engage seamen necessary to man her for a voyage to the West Indies, with such cargo as should be prepared, and apply to Capt. J. Perkins for money and advice.

Capt. Perkins was ordered to procure a suitable quantity of staves and hoops, to load the Dolphin and Spy, for a voyage to the West Indies, and to collect all the hog's lard that belonged to this State, in the care of Col. Champion and others, to be disposed of as he should be ordered, &c., by the Board.

IN SESSION, April 27.

John Way was appointed lieutenant fire worker for the company of artillery under Capt. Adam Shapley.

Benjamin Huntington was desired to permit Capt. Jabez Perkins to cut staves on lands in his care, owned by the heirs of C. Shillby, of London, deceased.

Capt. J. Perkins had liberty to use one hogshead of molasses, and one of sugar, owned by this State, to purchase staves and other articles, to fit out the Dolphin and Spy, to the West Indies; and Capt. Bill was directed to deliver said Perkins the sugar.

IN SESSION, April 28.

Maj. John Bigelow was appointed and directed to purchase woolen cloths, at the lawful prices, suitable for officers' clothing, from this State, in the continental service, to an amount not to exceed £3,000, lawful money. Also, to take half the pieces of linen in his hands, purchased of Capt. Michel, master of the French ship at New London, suitable for officers' shirts, and procure them to be made for that use. The clothing for the officers, to be sent forward for them, such as could be made, and the residue sent unmade, with suitable linings and trimmings; and take receipts of the officers so furnished, by the rules of Congress. That said Bigelow should lay the prices of said clothing and linen, before the commissioners of accounts at Hartford, who were directed to settle the prices at which the officers should account, and to charge the surplus to the United States; and to lay his own doings and expenses in said business, before the Governor and Council, as soon as might be.

IN SESSION, May 6.

It was voted, that Mr. Dart, of New London, should be exempted from all military duty, for and during the time he should be employed in cutting and carrying 50 loads of wood to the fort—having been requested by Capt. Hallam.

It was voted, that Capt. Cockran might receive of Col. Champion,

four barrels of pork, for the guard of 20 men stationed at Saybrook. Also, that Mr. David Trumbull might receive of said Champion, two barrels of pork, for so much received for Capt. Niles, of the schooner Spy, before, and not charged.

Mark Foquet, in behalf of his father, Capt. Nicholas Foquet, and himself, stated to the Governor and Council, that they were employed by the Continental Congress to inspect powder mills, and powder and salt petre in the United States ; and while in any particular State, to be under the direction of the Governor thereof, and supported by the United States, and empowered by Congress to call upon any continental quarter master in any State for such assistance and support they should need ; that Congress furnished them, at Yorktown, with a wagon, four horses, and a wagon master, to convey them and their baggage from State to State, and that the wagon master deserted them at Hartford, in this State ; that their money was nearly expended, and considerable expense had arisen since they came to Connecticut, and more expense would arise, and they should be obliged to go to the eastern States when Gov. Trumbull should direct ; that there was no quarter master to whom they could apply ; and therefore asked to be furnished with a wagon master, and necessary funds to defray their expense while here, and to convey them to such State as they should be directed. The Governor and Council ordered that Nathaniel Wales, Esq., should be desired to advance to the said Nicholas and Mark not exceeding \$200, to be repaid to him, and charged to the Continent.

On the request of Maj. William Ledyard, who represented the necessity of having 5 dozen spades and shovels, to carry on the works at New London and Groton forts ; the Governor and Council authorized Maj. Ledyard to procure said number of spades and shovels, for said purpose, to be under his care, and obtained in the most reasonable manner. And to employ three or four head workmen for carrying stone, of the men employed in the public service at and about the forts, if practicable, with an additional allowance to said men, or in the best and most reasonable manner he could, to be employed in the works on fort Trumbull, at New London. And it was voted, that Capt. Edward Hallam, commissary of the fort at New London, should receive of Mr. Crary, at Preston, eight barrels of pork owned by this State, in his hands, for the use of the garrison at said fort, and said Crary was ordered to deliver the same, and take a receipt accordingly.

## APPENDIX.

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THE following correspondence, in 1774, between Samuel Holden Parsons and Silas Dean, of this State, and Pelatiah Webster, of Philadelphia, was handed the author of this work by S. H. Parsons, Esq., of Hartford, (a grandson of Gen. Parsons,) which letters contain some important facts never before published; particularly the plan adopted to procure a country at the west, to which the whigs, in case of a war with Great Britain, and a defeat should ensue, might retreat from New England, for their (then) future safety.

### A LETTER FROM PELATIAH WEBSTER.

PHILADELPHIA, 2d April, 1774.

MR. SILAS DEAN,

SIR,—I received your favor of 21st ult., per post, and note its contents. My knowledge of the Virginia settlements on the Ohio is not perfect, but on the best information I can get, and which I think I have no reason to doubt the truth of the facts, are as follows, viz.: 1st. The several charters formerly made to the Virginia company, have been all at sundry times, surrendered to the crown. They now are a royal government, the limits of which are ascertained by the commission of their Governor, or instructions he receives from the crown; and all lands within those limits, not private property, belong to the crown, and are granted by the Governor pursuant to such instructions, general or special, as he receives from the crown. 2d. The government of Virginia have lately erected two new countries extending beyond the Alleghany mountains; the one (called Fin Castle,) covering the great tract of land through which the grand Conaway runs; the other covers the several rivers which have their conflux at or near fort Pitt to a vast extent. 3d. The lands within these two countries are granted by the Governor of Virginia to the officers, &c., who served in the late American expeditions, and to none others. 4th. The government of Virginia have granted all necessary commissions of peace and militia, within both said countries, some of which are given to persons residing at fort Pitt and its neighborhood. 5th. The Virginians consider all the crown lands, (i. e.) lands not granted to any other colony, as belonging to their jurisdiction; and that Maryland and Pennsylvania on one side, and both the Carolinas and Georgia on the other, are carved out of their province; but all the lands contiguous, which have not been granted, do still belong to them in right of their being the oldest colony, &c. I shall soon be more perfectly informed of these matters. I lately suggested the importance of such information to Dr. Johnson, but he did not seem immediately to apprehend it, so it was neglected.

As to the expediency of sending a party on discovery to Mississippi, &c., I do not see any advantage that can arise from it at present. It is in my opinion most vain to attempt any settlement westward of Pennsylvania, without first making a fast lodgement on the Delaware and Susquehannah. Such a lodgement you have already on the east branch of the Susquehannah, which I apprehend our proprietors, or Assembly, have no present thought of disturbing, and which you ought to increase and strengthen as soon, and as much as possible. The lands on the west branch of Susquehannah, are mostly granted and settled by grantors of our proprietors, and worth from 20 shillings to 80 shillings per acre ; but of such doubtful title, that if your colony had a land office open here, most of those patentees would apply and purchase your colony right, at 1 shilling or 2 shillings per acre, which would soon fill your treasury with cash to an amount of many thousands sterling, and enable you, without being burdensome to your own colony's company, to make a very respectable figure wherever you may be disposed to appear. The western lands within your latitude, from the Alleghany mountains to the sources of the Missouri river, 500 miles west of the Mississippi, have been sufficiently explored already, to put it past doubt that they are the finest lands, and most healthy climate in the universe, and naturally secure of the advantages of the most extensive inland navigation, and will in time be the seat of grand population in America, from whence the numerous legions must issue that will give law to the whole land ; from which it is easy to foresee the advantages that will accrue to New England, from having a settlement of their own sons extending through that vast region of 150 miles wide, (for if you succeed you may be assured Boston stands ready to extend their width to the South sea also, which with yours will make a breadth of 150 miles at least). These ideas are indeed vast, and will, therefore, without any regard to their natural probability, be treated as chimerical ; but if sagely weighed, must be allowed of great moment and importance. Another century will begin to realise them ; all our grand children will see them ; the authority and influence of Great Britain, or any other part of the earth over America, will lessen fast till it dwindles into nothing. Therefore I apprehend any application to Great Britain, further than just to keep up appearances and delay, their decisions to be altogether needless ; and not needless only, but very improper. I lament the strong opposition made in Connecticut, to attempt to settle and secure these vast western lands ; but one advantage will arise from them—they lull our proprietors asleep, who cease to exert themselves against you ; firmly expecting your divisions will do their business. But all these matters are too much for a letter. I wish I could see you before your next Assembly meets. You must come to New York on spring business. Can't you come as far as Philadelphia? I have straw and provinder at your service.

I am, Sir, your most obedient,

humble servant,

• PELATIAH WEBSTER.

P. S. Fort Augusta, half a mile south-east of the conflux of the east and west branches of the Susquehannah is by exact observation, in latitude  $40^{\circ} 53' 32''$ ; fort Durkee, at Wyoming, in  $41^{\circ} 14' 27''$ ; of Buffalo creek,  $41^{\circ} 1'$ , as taken by Mr. Samuel Wallace, a gentleman of great merit and well known to the Wyoming people, who is now going up with very accurate instruments to take the latitude  $42^{\circ}$ , in order to ascertain, how far north you extend ; and offers the use of his instruments to any gentleman you will appoint to attend him. I think

it of consequence to take the exact latitude of the mouth of Maromack river, which I take to be your southern bounds, as the commissioners in 1669, confirmed your line so far; if so, and the mouth of Maromack river is in north latitude  $40^{\circ} 46$ , as generally computed; the conflux of the two branches of the Susquehannah is 8 miles north of your southern line. My best compliments to Messrs. Dyer, Johnson, Strong, and all your company. The Ohio has English settlements from the mouth of Conaway up to Kittanning, 300 miles, who generally claim under Virginia, and call themselves Virginians; but by what particular title they hold I don't certainly know; the government of Virginia protects them, but whether that government really claims higher<sup>o</sup> up than  $41^{\circ}$ , the utmost northern extent of any charter they ever had, is uncertain. I should be obliged if you will keep me advised of the most material occurrences relative to this important subject. Though I have no interest, yet I have a curiosity somewhat anxious to know the step you are taking. I will pay you in any kind of advices which you may need, and I can procure from this city.

I am, &c.

PELATIAH WEBSTER.

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FROM SILAS DEAN TO S. H. PARSONS.

WETHERSFIELD, April 13, 1774.

DEAR SIR,—I have this moment wrote Mr. Bishop and the Speaker, per post, to meet the 22d inst., in order to choose members for the Congress, and have left it uncertain as to place—saying that Middletown or Wethersfield may be the place as most agreeable to the committee. You will see Capt. Trumbull, to whom communicate this; and though I am not over solicitous as to the place, am unwilling to meet at Middletown, and hope you will prefer Wethersfield, or even Hartford. The reasons I have for calling a meeting, are these: The southern colonies appear ardently engaged, to confer together, and to form one general plan for future action and proceeding. It is judged by all of the greatest importance; the calling of town meetings is growing fast into fashion in the colony; the consequent diversity, and in some instances, perhaps, inconsistency and absurdity of their resolves, will soon throw us into a scene of confusion, and gradually sink all proceedings of this kind into contempt. While fixing the attention of the public on so rational, manly, and promising a mode of proceeding, as that of a general conference, will calm their minds, and they will be ready to receive, and comply with whatever may be advised them by such assembly; and in the mean time they will be kept from forming those narrow, partial, and indigested resolves, which they otherwise may come into, and grow fond of, from principle paternal, though from no other, and be averse to exchange them even for better, or the best possible to be invented.

I have wrote to Portsmouth, Newport, Boston, New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Maryland, and Virginia, and inclosed the needful, which has cost me much time, beside clerk hire in copying; for I could not well make one letter answer as a circular for all, as our correspondence with them is various, as well as their situations and tempers. Boston, in sending out their solemn league and covenant, before they have consulted any other colony in the affair, is, in my humble opinion, very wrong, totally and absolutely so; as it is directly contrary to every principle of good reason and sound policy, to apply partial means



to remedy a general evil, or to take measures on a subject so universal and important, equally interesting to all, without consulting all. Good steps, and the best meant endeavors, so taken and pursued, lose greatly, and are often as fatal to the cause, as the very worst that can be taken. But their present distracted situation must atone for their errors, and we must do the best we can, for and with them. I am fully persuaded the ministry design to seize on some of the Boston leaders, and try them capitally in Great Britain; if so, (and Lord North's speech in Parliament fully points out such a design,) will they submit to go like prisoners of the holy office, to a distant country, to take their trial; or will they have the spirit to die like men, and sell their lives as dearly as they can, leaving to posterity their testimony, sealed with their blood, that death is to be preferred to slavery. I fear we are degenerated; but this is nothing more than what our ancestors actually did for us, and for liberty. This town met on Thursday, this week; they are spirited. But Sheriff Williams, in his boiling zeal, has almost preached them to death; he neglects serving writs or levying executions, and is now so hoarse that he can only whisper, but his desire of communicating is no way abated, which, were the subject less interesting than it is, would render him a diverting figure.

My design in our meeting, is, if possible, to carry only two points: 1st. Approve of the resolves of the Assembly, in a strong style, and order them to be preserved as parcel of our records, to oblige our people now and hereafter, with ready access to them on all occasions. 2d. To anticipate the general constitution, by giving now our proportion to the relief of Boston, to be raised in an equal way, by subscription; each one entering against his name so much on the grand list as he has a mind to give, whether it be one penny or more on the pound.

I have wrote a long letter to our friend E. Hazard, a copy of which is enclosed, and after perusal, you will return to me, as I have no other. To which wild scheme, as you may freely call it without offence to me, I subjoin this alternative—that if tracing the river Mississippi so far up be considered as too remote and laborious, that we attempt the south-west corner of lake Erie, which will be less so, and may answer our purpose quite as well, if it succeed. Had the memorial been granted, and we seriously pursued it, one of these places must have been the spot for our first beginning on; and ten thousand pounds will go so far in making the experiment of a settlement on either place, that if it answer our expectations, we may easily obtain partners able to carry it on. Is it impossible, while the crown and its slaves are busy in quarreling with the old colonies, to fix such a lodgement at one or the other of those places, that let the affairs of America turn as they will, we may be secure in our possessions? There is now six thousand, and in less than one year, there will be ten thousand inhabitants at Susquehannah. This settlement had every discouragement and obstacle that we can possibly meet with, and some that we may most probably avoid. Disowned by every government; persecuted with fire and sword by one of the most powerful; unsupported by any proprietaries of wealth, or influence, and so wretchedly poor themselves, that the place was an asylum from the gaol, or an assignment in service to most of them; yet this has thus increased in about three or four years, and will in all probability soon become an opulent and populous plantation. Can we not start on as good grounds and better, though disowned by government? We shall have none to contend with on our first settling down; and put the case—the American difficulties—if they should last but four or five years, and there is not, in my view, the least prospect of their ending in twice that time, we may have without charge to ourselves, at least two thousand



men able to bear arms, with their families on the spot. Then, I say, let the affairs of America turn as they will, we may be secure; for if arbitrary measures are still pursued, whatever success the arms of these tyrants may meet with, they will not in that time subdue the tempers of the colonists, so but that it will require all their attention to keep up the appearance of submission; which is all they can ever hereafter expect in America. And such a proceeding on their part will cause many to fly to any place that will afford them peace, and a tolerable competency for support; so that unobserved or beyond the power of their immediate attention, our plantation in ten years may be some thousand strong; and by a properly humane and timely hospitable treatment of the natives, have some powerful tribes in our allegiance and friendship. Should, as I observed, arbitrary and coercive measures be pursued, this may the more readily be effected. And on the other hand, we are not to expect lenient and conciliating measures on other terms than a general alteration of the whole system of American government, by the repeal of all revenue laws now in being, enacted by the parliament of Great Britain; and in lieu thereof, have a new but an equivalent code formed by a Parliament of our own, with a Lord Lieutenant at their head, or some alteration similar; for I have not the least prospect, even in idea, that Great Britain will ever condescend to give up their right of taxing America, without fixing some hold on us, in their view equally binding. And indeed should they now repeal the tea act, and restore Boston to the state they once were in, we all know it would have no decisive effect as to ending the dispute. The post office, and the admiralty judges, would be our next grievances, and would doubtless be productive of as serious consequences. Now as a general system, either of tyrannical, arbitrary, and despotic government, supported by the sword, or some civil constitution adopted, to take in the whole continent, must take place soon; that is, within ten years at farthest. We have no great to fear, situated in that inland country, from the former, after we have got but two thousand men.

[The remainder of the letter is not to be found.]

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FROM SILAS DEAN TO S. H. PARSONS.

WETHERSFIELD, 21st of June, 1774.

DEAR SIR,—Yours I received per post. The proposed meeting of the committee is laid aside, and I have wrote accordingly to Messrs. Bishop and Silliman. We had last Thursday a town meeting, and yesterday there was one at Hartford; the result of each of which you will have a sketch of in the papers. I like well to have the people spirited, and to give proof of it; but confess I do not so well approve of any town's striking out a plan of their own, as it is next to impossible but that they should be in some degree inconsistent with each other; but I have said the same thing to you before—so will drop the subject. If you see Col. Williams, I pray you to get a copy of his journal of our appointment, May, 1773; and of the resolution of the House last session, respecting the Congress.

I am in haste,

Sir, yours, &c.

S. DEAN.

DEPOSITIONS TAKEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BATTLE OF  
LEXINGTON, CONCORD, &c.

CONCORD, April 23, 1775.

I, Timothy Minot, Jr., of Concord, on the 19th day of this inst., (April) after that I had heard of the regular troops firing upon Lexington men, and fearing hostilities might be commenced at Concord, thought it my incumbent duty to secure my family. After I had secured my family—sometime after that—returning towards my own dwelling, and finding that the bridge on the northern part of said Concord was guarded by regular troops, being a spectator of what had happened at said bridge; declare that the regular troops stationed on said bridge, after they saw the men that were collected on the westerly side of said bridge, marched towards said bridge, then the troops returned towards the easterly side of said bridge, and formed themselves, as I thought, for a regular fight; after that they fired one gun, then two or three more, before the men that were stationed on the westerly part of said bridge fired upon them.

TIMOTHY MINOT, JR.

Sworn before us, William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings, Duncan Ingraham, Justices of the Peace.

Sworn by Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public.

Middlesex, April 23, 1775.

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MEDFORD, April 25, 1775.

I, Edward Thoraton Gould, of his Majesty's own regiment of foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the 18th inst., under the order of Gen. Gage, I embarked with the light infantry and grenadiers of the line, commanded by Col. Smith, and landed on the marsh of Cambridge, from whence we proceeded to Lexington. On our arrival at that place, we saw a body of provincial troops, armed to the number of about 60 or 70 men. On our approach they dispersed, and soon after firing began, but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing previous to the firing, which was continued by our troops so long as any of the provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to Concord. On a hill near the entrance of the town, we saw another body of provincials assembled; the light infantry company were ordered up the hill to disperse them; on our approach they retreated towards Concord; the grenadiers continued the road under the hill towards the town. Six companies of light infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge, which the provincials retreated over; the company I commanded was one of three companies of the above detachment, went forwards about two miles; in the mean time the provincial troops returned to the number of about 300 or 400. We drew up on the Concord side of the bridge; the provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged, and gave the first fire. This was the first engagement after the one at Lexington. Continued firing from both parties lasted through the whole day. I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the provincials at Medford.

EDWARD THORATON GOULD.

Sworn before Thaddeus Mason, Josiah Johnson, Simon Tufts, Justices of the Peace.

Sworn before Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public.

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, James Barrett, of Concord, colonel of a regiment of militia, in the county of Middlesex, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning last, about day break, I was informed of the approach of a number of the regular troops to the town of Concord, where were some magazines belonging to this province, and where there was assembled some of the militia of this and the neighboring towns; when I ordered them to march to the north bridge, (so called) which they had passed, and were taking up. I ordered said militia to march to said bridge and pass the same, but not to fire on the King's troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said troops fired upon our militia, and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others; which was the first firing of guns in the town of Concord. My detachment then returned the fire, which killed and wounded several of the King's troops.

JAMES BARRETT.

Sworn before us, Jonathan Hastings, Duncan Ingraham, Justices of the Peace.  
Sworn before Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public.

We, Nathan Barrett, captain; Jonathan Farrer, Joseph Butler, and Francis Wheeler, lieutenants; John Barrett, ensign; John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Jr., Samuel Burnett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Pierce, and Edward Richard, Jr., all of Concord, in the county of Middlesex, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, of lawful age, testify and declare, that on Wednesday, the 19th inst., about an hour after sun rise, we assembled on a hill near the meeting house, in Concord aforesaid, in consequence of information that a number of regular troops had killed six of our countrymen at Lexington, and were on their march to said Concord; and about an hour afterward we saw them approaching to the number, as we imagined of about 1,200; on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the aforesaid troops then took possession of a hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw them moving towards the north bridge, about one mile from said meeting house; we then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge just before a party of them, to the number of about 200 arrived; they there left about one half of these 200 at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Col. Barrett's, about two miles from the said bridge; we then seeing several fires in the town, thought our houses were in danger, and immediately marched back towards said bridge; and the troops who were stationed there, observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the planks. We then hastened our steps toward the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge they fired on our men, first three guns one after the other, and then a considerable number more; upon which, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the regulars, and they retreated. At Concord, and on their retreat through Lexington, they plundered many houses; burnt three at Lexington, together with a shop and a barn, and committed damage more or less to almost every house from Concord to Charlestown.

(Signed)

Samuel Barrett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Pierce, Edward Richardson, John Barrett, John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim

Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Jr., Nathan Barrett, Jonathan Farrar, Joseph Butler, Francis Wheeler.

Sworn before Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings, Duncan Ingraham, Justices of the Peace.

Sworn before Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public.

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LEXINGTON, April 23, 1775.

We, John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Monroe, Isaac Park, William Hosmer, John Adams, and Gregory Stone, all of Lincoln, in the county of Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday last, we were assembled at Concord, in the morning of said day, in consequence of information received, that a brigade of regular troops were on their march to the said town of Concord, who had killed six men at the town of Lexington. About an hour afterwards we saw them approaching to the number, as we apprehended, of about 1,200; on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the said troops then took possession of the hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw the troops moving towards the north bridge, about one mile from the said Concord meeting house; we then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge just before a party of them to the number of about 200 arrived; they there left about one half of their 200 at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Col. Barrett's, about two miles from the said bridge; we then seeing several fires in the town, thought the houses in Concord were in danger, and marched toward the said bridge; and the troops who were stationed there observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the plank. We then hastened our march towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge, they fired on our men, first three guns one after the other, and then a considerable number more, and then, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officers not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the regulars, and they retreated. On their retreat through this town, (Lexington) to Charlostown, they ravaged and destroyed private property, and burnt three houses, one barn, and one shop.

(Signed)

John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Monroe, Isaac Park, William Hosmer, John Adams, Gregory Stone.

Sworn before William Reed, John Cummings, Jonathan Hastings, Justices of the Peace.

Sworn before Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public.

LEXINGTON, April 23, 1775.

We, Joseph Butler and Ephraim Melvin, do testify and declare, that when the regular troops fired on our people at the north bridge in Concord, as related in the foregoing depositions, they shot one, and we believe two of our people before we fired a single gun at them.

JOSEPH BUTLER,  
EPHRAIM MELVIN.

## COPY OF A LETTER TO GREAT BRITAIN.

APRIL 26, 1775.

By the Governor and Company of the colony of Connecticut, in General Assembly, convened at Hartford, 26th of April, 1775. To the people of Great Britain.

Whereas on the 19th day of April, 1775, a number of the inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay, and also a number of the King's troops in that province, were killed by their firing on each other, in consequence of which, a genural alarm has taken place through all the colonies, and a very great army of Americans are collected near Boston, to oppose force to force. And whereas it is credibly reported to us, that depositions are taken and transmitted to Great Britain, affirming and shewing that the Americans were the aggressors, and began the fire:—Be it known, that a brigade of about 1,000 of the King's troops marched, in the night following the 18th, from Boston to Lexington, twelve miles, and there found in the morning following about 50 Americans collected for military exercise, without any knowledge that soldiers were near them, and accosted them with most profane and opprobrious language, and commanded them instantly to disperse; which they obeyed, and began to disperse; but at the same time the King's troops fired upon them, and repeated the fire a second time, and killed 8 men on the spot, before any fire was returned, and then but one American opened on them. And is it then possible to believe, that such a handful would expose themselves to certain death, by beginning a fire on such a body of well-armed troops? And it is declared by every voice, and universally believed to be without the least doubt or hesitation, that the firing began in manner aforesaid, which may and will certainly be proved and attested by irrefragable evidence. This Assembly is firmly persuaded that this is the truth. And it is earnestly requested that if any of the nation doubts, they will suspend their belief, till evidence be received, which must convince every rational mind, that said troops were first in hostilities; such evidence will be transmitted as soon as possible; but it is impossible for this Assembly, at such a distance, to obtain it immediately.

MAY, 1775.

In the Lower House, Mr. Hosmer, Col. Wolcott, Col. Elderkin, and Mr. Sturges were appointed a committee, with such gentlemen as the Senate appointed, to consider what intelligence, papers, and documents were material and necessary to be transmitted to the Continental Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia. Also, what matters and things relative to the transactions at Boston, it was expedient to make public, and report.

Report of the committee:—To the Honorable the General Assembly, now sitting in Hartford. We, your Honor's committee to consider what intelligence, papers, and documents are material and necessary to be transmitted and communicated to the Continental Congress, now sitting at Philadelphia; and likewise what matters and things relative to the late hostile transactions, it is expedient to make public—beg leave to report our opinion.

First, That it is material and necessary, that copies of the letter wrote by the Governor to Gen. Gage, at the request and in behalf of the Assembly, and of Gen. Gage's answer to said letter, and of his narration of the proceedings of the troops on the 18th and 19th of April last, accompanied with a letter from this

## FORTIFICATIONS AT NEW LONDON.

On the 13th of May, 1775, G. Saltonstall, Deshon, and Mumford, Esq's., who had been appointed by the Assembly to devise the best method for securing, defending, and protecting the sea coast in the colony, with the ports and shipping—stated in their report, that they found the battery at New London in a ruinous condition, with four new 18 pounders, and two new 12 pounders, with several other small old cannon, upon which no dependence could be placed; and proposed to the Assembly, to provide fourteen more new cannon, 24 pounders, to defend the port and shipping at New London. The committee advised, not that the twenty-four new cannon should be planted in one battery, but to place them in diverse places, where their forces would be divided, and their attention brought to different batteries at the same time, and of course render the attack of the enemy of less importance to us, and the resistance from the different points of much greater advantage. And proposed to mount five cannon at Mamacock, in New London, on the west side of the harbor, and five at Groton, on the east side, nearly opposite to Mamacock; and ten of the heaviest cannon to be mounted on the high bank on Winthrop's Neck, fronting south to the entrance of the harbor, and near the middle of it. At that particular juncture, they deferred giving an opinion as to securing the sea coast and shipping, in any other manner than by making New London port an asylum for the ships, but referred it to the wisdom of the General Assembly.

## GOVERNOR TRUMBULL'S LETTER.

A letter to Eliphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman, and Silas Dean, Esq's., by Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut, dated

HARTFORD, July 7th, 1775.

Gentlemen,—I received your joint letter of the 26th and Mr. Sherman's of the 28th of June, and am now to acquaint you that the General Assembly, which met here on Saturday last, have agreed to augment our troops with two regiments of 700 men each, who will be raised and sent forward to join the continental army before Boston, with all possible despatch. It was much wished we could have had the advice and direction of Congress, before we took this step; but it was thought that the delay of obtaining that direction, would be too great in the present critical situation of our affairs, and we hope it may meet the approbation of Congress. As the expense we are daily incurring is so very great, we should be extremely glad to find that the continental currency is in such forwardness as to be applied to the purpose of equipping and furnishing these troops; should this be the case, you will be so good as to apply for the money, and forward it to me with all despatch. We estimate the present expense at £40,000. It will be so much more convenient and less expensive for our troops stationed at New York, by order of Congress, to be supplied with provisions, &c., by New York, than from us, that we hope the Congress will direct the convention of that province to furnish them during their residence there, in the same manner as this colony has agreed to do—less than we have engaged them, I need not tell you, will by no means give them satisfaction.

We were a little surprised that so large a requisition of money, especially, was made upon us in favor of Gen. Schuyler, when it is known how much we have already exhausted ourselves; and we cannot suspect but that the money might have been raised with great ease in a short time, either in Philadelphia or New

York. However that nothing in our power might be omitted to promote the service, the Assembly have agreed to advance him £15,000, knowing the inability of other colonies with respect to the other article, we should very gladly have complied with the full requisition, but it was impossible. We have done all that we could, and are only sorry that we could do no more.

I cannot tell you that we are all well pleased with the arrangement, made by Congress, of the general officers. We wish the order, &c., adopted with our generals had been preferred, and fear Gen's. Wooster and Spencer will think they have reason to complain. Indeed we should have rather expected that a matter of so much delicacy would have been first submitted to the approbation of the Assembly, before it was finally fixed. However, we will do the best we can to prevent its being any prejudice to the service.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

P. S. I am now further desired, by the Assembly, to acquaint you that Gen's. Wooster and Spencer are held in great estimation by them, and by the officers and troops under their command. And from the intelligence lately received from the army, they are under some apprehensions that great inconvenience will be the consequence of the alteration made by the Congress, in the rank and station of those generals. At the same time they have the highest sense of Gen. Putnam's singular merit and services; and request, if it be practicable, that some method may be devised to obviate the difficulties that are apprehended.

Mr. James Dean, the bearer of this, is lately returned from a mission among the tribes of Indians in Canada. His information appears to us of importance; we have therefore employed him on this journey, that he may communicate his intelligence to the Congress.

J. TRUMBULL.

To Eliphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman, and Silas Dean, Esq's.

#### GEN. SPENCER SUPERSEDED BY GEN. PUTNAM.

JULY, 1775.

Soon after Congress had superseded Gen. Spencer, by the appointment of Gen. Putnam to the office of major general in the American army, it was apparent that it gave great offence to Gen. Spencer, and many of the officers and soldiers under his command, so much so that the officers of the army, at Roxbury, in Massachusetts, made a representation to the General Assembly of Connecticut, respecting the arrangement of general officers. And the Assembly, in July, 1775, appointed a committee, of which Matthew Griswold, Esq., was chairman, to take said representation into consideration. The committee to obviate the inconvenience that might arise from the alteration made by Congress in the rank of Gen's. Wooster, Spencer, and Putnam, which had caused so great uneasiness to Gen. Spencer, and the officers more immediately under his command, reported—

That the Governor of Connecticut, in behalf of said Assembly, should be desired to confer with, and acquaint Congress with the estimation in which Gen's. Wooster and Spencer were held by the Assembly, and the officers and troops under their command; that they had been so far overlooked in the appointment of general officers by them, and of the probable inconvenience that might ensue; and at the same time to testify their sense of the singular merit of



Gen. Putnam, and request Congress, if practicable, to devise some method of obviating the difficulties apprehended. Also to desire the Governor to acquaint Gen. Spencer of said application in his behalf, and conjure him, by the love of his country, to call to mind the signal affection of his country to him, so often testified, and request Gen. Spencer not to precipitately resign his command, which would distress the troops, attached to him by the warmest affection and duty, and give great dissatisfaction and anxiety to his country, which had placed and continued to place high confidence in his wisdom, prudence, integrity, and military skill. Gen. Spencer went to Roxbury the first in command of the Connecticut forces, and had continued so, respected by his officers, and loved by his soldiers, until he was degraded from the rank he held, by the appointment of Gen. Putnam over him, by Congress. Though the appointments of Generals Washington and Lee were perfectly satisfactory to the Connecticut troops, yet Gen. Spencer's men had too much military pride to see their general degraded by the appointment of Gen. Putnam, who had held an inferior rank in the army. Therefore, S. H. Parsons, John Tyler, S. Prentice, Return J. Meigs, H. Champion, Jr., and about forty-five others, officers and principal men in the Connecticut troops, stated to the General Assembly of Connecticut, that the appointment of Gen. Putnam would and must force Gen. Spencer from the army; and that the procedure they apprehended would be injurious to the morals, good order, and discipline of the troops; and most earnestly intreated the Assembly to use every exertion with Congress, to prevent Gen. Spencer's being superseded, and to satisfy his troops.

#### EFFECT OF THE EMBARGOES.

JULY, 1775.

The embargoes, which had been laid by this colony, and prevented the exporting from this State, might have conduced to the safety of it in supplying the Connecticut troops, and its inhabitants; yet while it afforded these comforts, it operated most destructively upon the vessels owned in the colony, which were long laid up and useless, decayed, destroyed by worms, and suffered to rot at the wharves; while the large quantities of provisions that had been purchased for exportation were either sold at such prices as the commissaries chose to pay, or remained on the hands of the owners, much of which was ruined and became a total loss, with large bills of expense for storage. Frequent petitions were preferred to the General Assembly during the war, to be relieved from the burthens imposed upon importers, by the different embargoes that were laid upon the people of the colony and State, yet the love of country and a desire to shake off the British yoke, induced the inhabitants to endure, with christian patience, every hardship of a most unjust, oppressive, and unequal war.

#### WATERBURY TORIES.

OCTOBER, 1775.

To the Honorable General Assembly, to be holden at New Haven, on the 2d Thursday of October, A. D. 1775.

The memorial of the subscribers, inhabitants of Waterbury, within the limits of the military company, or train band, under the command of Capt. Hezekiah Brown, humbly sheweth—That your memorialists, sensible of the importance of supporting the natural and chartered rights, liberties, privileges, and properties



of the inhabitants of the American colonies, and anxious to find any person or persons unfriendly to the continental method of defending said colonies, think ourselves obliged to inform your Honors, that the said Brown is disaffected with, and unfriendly to the present method advised by the Continental Congress, and adopted by your Honors, for our common defence; which fully appears by the following sentences pronounced by said Brown in the hearing of sundry people at sundry times, viz.: that the Congress ought to be punished for putting the country to so much cost and charge; for they did no more good than a parcel of squaws. And some time in the latter end of May last, did say, that he did not see the necessity of this colony raising soldiers, as it was unnecessary expense, and the Assembly had no right to do it; and that Boston had wrongfully undertaken to quarrel with the Parliament about the tea, and we had no hand in it; and by his justifying his brother, John Brown, in exclaiming against the authority of this colony for raising men to defend the colony; and by saying that our General Assembly was as arbitrary as the Pope of Rome, when they cashiered Capt. Amos Bronson, and Ensign Samuel Scovill, by saying that the Congress, in some of the Articles of their Association, was as arbitrary as ever they were in Rome. And soon after the battle of Lexington, in April last, by saying in the time of the alarm, that he would not go one step further for the relief of the people of Boston, than he was obliged to go.

Therefore your memorialists would humbly observe, that as all military officers in this colony, hold their commissions by your Honors' authority, solely for the purpose of defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, we think it is very inconsistent that any person should hold a commission, who is inclined to use his influence against the authority that granted it; and very unsafe for this colony at the present critical and important crisis, and is very grievous to your memorialists to be under the command of an officer in whom we cannot confide. And therefore pray your Honors to grant such relief as your wisdom and justice shall direct; and we as in duty bound shall ever pray. Dated at Waterbury, this 3d day of October, A. D. 1775.

(Signed) Joseph Beach, Phineas Castle, Daniel Bronson, Moses Cook, Amos Prichard, Thomas Bronson, Jr.

On the 1st day of October, 1775, the warrant was served, which was signed by Jonathan Baldwin, Justice of the Peace.

#### PETITION OF REV. SAMUEL SEABURY.

DECEMBER 20th, 1775.

Samuel Seabury, rector of the parish of Westchester, in the province of New York, brought his petition on the 20th day of December, 1776, to the General Assembly of Connecticut, then sitting at New Haven, in which he stated, That on the 22d day of November, 1775, he was seized at his grammar school in said Westchester, by a company of about 40 armed men, carried by force to his own house, allowed only time to get his horse, then compelled to take the road to King's Bridge, where they soon met another company of armed men who joined them, and proceeded to Eastchester. Capt. Lathrop commanded the first company, and after the union, Capt. Isaac Sears took the command of the whole, being about 100 men; that after their arrival at Eastchester, said Seabury, with Jonathan Fowler, Esq., of Eastchester, and Nathaniel Underhill, Esq., of Westchester, were sent under a guard of about 20 armed men, to Horse Neck, in this State; and on the following Monday, was taken to New Haven, where he

was carried in triumph about the city, escorted by a large number of men on horses and in carriages, most of them armed, and arranged themselves in front of the house of Capt. Sears; there fired two cannon, and huzzaed for Seabury; he was then put under a guard of five men, and sent to, and kept under said guard at the house of Mrs. Lyman, where he was kept, and refused any intercourse with his friends, even in company with his guard; prohibited reading prayers in church, or performing divine service, though often invited by the Rev. Mr. Hubbard, of New Haven; interdicted the use of pen, ink, and paper, except to write to his family, and his letters in such case examined and licensed; though he was permitted by Capt. Sears to write his own petition to the General Assembly. He had received but one letter from his family, and that had been opened, though sent by the post.

He farther stated, that he had been informed that on the 22d of said November, one of his daughters, when said armed men were at his house, had been abused and insulted, by having a bayonet thrust through her cap on her head; also by thrusting a bayonet through her handkerchief on her neck, before and behind, and cut in pieces a quilt around which his daughters were at work, with their bayonets, and destroyed it. That said soldiers ordered his wife to open his paper and money desk, and examined his papers, and took from the desk several dollars in money, and left but a single English shilling and three or four coppers. They also took a new beaver hat, a silver mounted horse whip, and two silver spoons. He had been informed by Mr. Meloy, of New Haven, that a bayonet had been pointed at the breast of one of his daughters, while he was absent at his school; that his daughter met him when he was brought from his school house, and stated that one of the men had pushed his bayonet against her breast, and otherwise insulted her; and when she met her father, she had no cap on, and her handkerchief was hanging over her shoulders.

After Mr. Seabury had been eight or ten days at New Haven, Jonathan Mix, in whose care he was placed, took him to the inn of Mr. Beers, in said town, where he found Capt. Sears, Capt. Lathrop, Mr. Brown, and others, when and where they questioned him; he explicitly answered them until he discovered some insidious designs were had against him, when he refused to answer them further. Capt. Sears informed him they should not release him, to make a compromise as had been made with Judge Fowler and Mr. Underhill, but should keep him a prisoner until the dispute between Great Britain and America should be closed.

Mr. Seabury asked of them an explicit declaration of the charges against him; and was told that he had entered into a combination with six or seven others to seize Capt. Sears, as he was passing through Westchester, and convey him on board a man-of-war. That he had signed a protest, at White Plains, against the proceedings of the Continental Congress. That he had neglected to open his church on the day of the continental fast. And that he had written pamphlets and newspapers against the liberties of America.

To the first and last charges, Mr. Seabury pleaded not guilty, and informed them he should be ready to prove his innocence when he should be restored to his liberty in the province of New York, where alone he conceived himself amenable.

He considered his arrest as a high infringement of that liberty, for which the sons of America were then so nobly struggling; to be carried by force from one

colony into another for imprisonment, or trial ; to be judged by the laws of Connecticut, for acts done in the colony of New York, where he had resided nearly 20 years ; to be dragged under guard from the committee of his own county, and from the Congress of his own province ; cut off from all intercourse with his friends ; deprived of his evidence of innocence, and judged by strangers, ignorant of his character and general conduct in life. 1

One great grievance justly complained of by the American people, and for which they were then struggling against, was the act of Parliament, which directed persons to be carried from America to England, for trial ; and he believed the Legislature of Connecticut would not suffer him to be treated in a manner so destructive of that liberty, they were then contending for. He claimed, if he was to be judged by the regulations of Congress, that the county committee, or the provincial Congress of New York, were to be his judges. He claimed that no law authorized so urgent, cruel, arbitrary, and tyrannical treatment.

Mr. Seabury answered the charge of signing a protest against the proceedings of Congress, by stating that the General Assembly of New York, at their session previous, had determined to send a petition to the King, a memorial to the House of Lords, and a remonstrance to the House of Commons, on the subject of American grievances ; and the members of said Assembly, as he had been informed, recommended it to their constituents to keep quiet until the issue of the applications should be known.

In April, 1775, the people met at White Plains, to elect delegates to the provincial Congress ; many there opposed the measure, and signed a protest ; said Seabury, with two members of said Assembly and more than 300 others, signed the protest, though he did not think he acted against the liberties of America, or that it was a crime to sign what two representatives of the people had approved and signed, to support measures, he then hoped it would have had a good effect by inducing a change of conduct towards America. He stated, that over eight months had expired since he signed the protest—and asked, if his crime was so atrocious, why he had been suffered so long to go unpunished ? And why he had been singled out of more than 300 signers, to endure the unexampled punishment of captivity and unlimited confinement.

To the other crime charged, of not opening his church on the day of the continental fast, he answered—that he had no notice of the appointment, except by report. That he had been tried on this charge, with a full hearing, on a complaint by Capt. Sears, to the provincial Congress of New York, and acquitted. That he considered it cruel, arbitrary, and highly unjust, after his supposed offence had been examined, to be twice tried for the same offence ; to be dragged like a felon, 70 miles from home, and again tried. He also stated, that he had a wife and six children, to whom he owed his protection, support, and instruction ; that his family in a great measure depended upon his daily care for their bread ; that he was bred a physician, and that several families at Westchester, depended upon his medical advice ; that as a clergyman, he had in charge the towns of Eastchester and Westchester, and that there was then no other clergyman of any denomination nearer than 9 miles from his residence, and but one within that distance ; so that in his absence there was none to officiate in any religious service, to visit the sick, or bury the dead ; that to discharge his debts, he had opened a grammar school, and had made £100, York money, the previous

year, and was in a fair way of discharging his debts; that he had five young men from the island of Jamaica, one from Montreal, four children of a gentleman then in England, with others in his care from New York, and the country; that it might be impossible to recover his school, in which case, he should be entirely at the mercy of his creditors.

Mr. Seabury had applied to the judges of the superior court, while holding a court at New Haven for relief; but they deemed it improper to interfere. He therefore applied to the Assembly to be released; and asked for their protection, to pass peaceably out of the colony.

He had been accused of violating the rules of the Continental Congress; but he thought he could satisfy reasonable men on that point, that he violated no regulation of Congress, in so gross a manner, as those had violated the law, who, in an arbitrary manner, had forced him from his house, and kept him (then) four weeks a prisoner, without any means or prospect of relief. He wished, if any further enquiry should be made, that he might be permitted to appear at the Bar of the House, and answer for himself, or by counsel, or as they should direct.

The petition, in the Assembly, was referred to a joint committee of the two Houses, with William Samuel Johnson, Esq., as chairman, who reported, that a letter had been received from the President of the New York Congress on the subject; and that to enable the Assembly to answer said letter, a public hearing should be had before both Houses of said Assembly.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FORTIFICATIONS AT NEW LONDON. NOVEMBER, 1775.

To the Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of the Colony of Connecticut:

Whereas your Honor and Council of Safety, on the 2d day of November inst. appointed me, with Maj. Dawes, (now residing in Norwich,) with such engineer as your Honor should procure from his Excellency Gen. Washington, to repair to, and view the circumstances of the harbor and port at New London, and neighboring places, and consider of the most proper places, and manner of fortifying the same against our enemies, &c., according to act of Assembly, &c.; after which it so happened that no engineer could be procured.

That on the 8th of said November, your Honor directed me to wait on said Maj. Dawes, and with him to attend on and perform said service in the best manner we could. That on the 9th day of said November, I, at Norwich, waited on said Maj. Dawes, informed him of his being appointed in manner aforesaid, and requested him, with me, to attend said service, (which service the said Maj. Dawes declined for reasons which he judged sufficient to excuse him;) on which, by the advice of some of your Honor's Council of Safety, I went forward to New London and Groton to execute said trust, and do the service, in the best manner I could, by the assistance, information, and help of the principal gentlemen of said towns. On my arrival I sent to a considerable part, and gave notice to almost all the gentlemen living on the banks and near the harbor in New London, among whom were many who, by travelling and other ways, had gained considerable knowledge in fortification, batteries, and securing harbors, &c. I then informed them of your Honor's orders, and that I would with them view the several places mentioned by the Assembly's committee, and any other

they would propose as suitable to build works on, for the security of the harbor ; on which it was the voice of all, that the places mentioned in the committee's report were far the best on the harbor, and were so formed and situated, that with much the least expense and danger might be improved for security of that port.

We then went on and viewed the island or point called Mamacock, with the make, rise, and fall of the ground to and from the point, or place where the battery must stand—found the distance from thence to the old fort, to the harbor's mouth, and directly across the river ; which, on viewing, all were of opinion that the places were good for the purpose. The top of the east part is near 20 feet above the water ; on the top principally flat rocks ; near by plenty of turf suitable for constructing and making of a rampart or bank. Suppose a bank of 80 feet, fronting near east the same length, south the same, north, not on right angles, with five embrasures in each rampart or bank, without bastions or trenches without the works, and five cannon, 18 or 24 pounders, well mounted, which might with ease be removed from place to place as the service might require. This battery, if built, would be 182 rods from the old fort, a little over two miles from the harbor's mouth, and the waters of the river or harbor, near east, opposite, 192 rods, would command the harbor in every place north-east and south, within reach of their shot.

We then viewed the place called Winthrop's Point, and find the south bluff part of that point is twenty feet above the water, very steep, mostly hard gravel, pointing down the harbor to the harbor's mouth ; a fine level on the top, (near the water,) to build a battery or breast work for the improving of cannon to secure the port of New London. The land leading to the point so rises, and has sundry hills and vales that any number of men may pass and repass entirely safe from ships in any part of the harbor. Materials, viz. : turf and gravel plenty and handy. Suppose ten guns, 18 or 24 pounders, would be well to be planted at this place.

Then viewed sundry places at Groton, and were attended by, and had the advice of many of the gentlemen of that town, who all manifested their desire that the port of New London might be fortified, which they, as well as the people at New London, supposed might be done at as little expense as any harbor or port, (equally valuable,) on the continent.

On examination, viewing, &c., find that there is in Groton, nearly opposite the old fort at New London, a hill or an eminence, the summit or top of which is about 120 feet above the surface of the water, and within 50 rods of the water's edge, at which place the ship channel is not more than 160 rods in width ; on the summit of this hill, the harbor, from the entrance to the north part thereof, (and some way up the river,) is open and in view. On this hill it seems nature had prepared a place to plant cannon for the protection of that port or harbor ; the top running near the same point of the harbor, north and south, for some distance, is considerable level, sufficient to improve such number of cannon as would be necessary ; and east and west sufficient for breast work and platform for the cannon. Then the declivity of the hill is such east, that any number of men, by stepping a few steps back of said works would be out of danger. The form of the land is such that all passing to and from a battery there, could be secure from the enemy. It is thought no large man-of-war can so elevate her cannon in her lower tier as to annoy a battery at this place ; if she could reach thence.

they would be random shot. I suppose no works would be necessary here for the improvement of cannon, only a breast work or bank of turf and gravel, not more than 10 feet thick, of suitable height for the cannon to play over without embrasures, bastions, or trenches. Turf and gravel plenty. Ten 24 pounders would answer, but some larger would be better. I need not observe the great advantage the defenders would have at this place, over their enemy ; the elevation is such that they may plunge into their ships, if within reach of their guns.

Also viewed the new works at the old battery, executed by Col. Saltonstall, which are well done, and nearly finished ; the cannon well mounted ; the situation good, if other batteries, at some or all the other places are built, and cannon planted so that the enemy's fire be drawn to different places, and not centre there ; but if batteries were built at all the other proposed places, and with a suitable number, and proper weight of cannon, the situation and different angles that those places bear one to the other, would expose any ship that should come within reach of their shot, within the harbor, to be distressed, annoyed, and raked fore and aft.

As to the expense of the works at those places, I endeavored, by the help of some best acquainted, to make some estimate ; but found on trial, that it was not possible to be done with any degree of certainty. The people of Groton, at their own expense, have, at sundry places near the water's edge, made breast works and entrenchments to protect them in the use of their fire arms, on the landing of troops on or near their wharves, and other places, which they are determined to oppose to the last. These works are very well done, and at considerable expense, in which the people appear free and spirited.

As to floating batteries to defend the port and harbor against the enemy's ships, when they come with defiance and a determination to possess themselves of that part of our country, they cannot be sufficient, without fixed batteries at some or all the places proposed, to secure and defend the port from invasion and falling into the possession of the enemy. I own, I never till lately gave much attention to the business or art of fortifying harbors, or building forts, batteries, &c. ; but the alarming situation and distress in which our country is in, and ministerial designs and vengeance, aimed at our sea coast, has called my attention to look into matters of that kind ; and so far as I can judge, it is of the utmost importance to secure the port and harbor of New London from falling into the hands of our enemies, which will be an asylum for ships, vessels of force, floating batteries, &c., that be by the continent or any particular government built for the protection of our sea coast, trade, or country, which shall come that way ; but on the contrary, if left destitute of protection, and fall into the hands of our enemies, it would let them into the bowels of our country, and give them great advantage against us, that the best and only sure and eligible manner of fortifying and securing said port and harbor, is in erecting batteries at the several places, and in some manner as before mentioned.

All which is submitted to your Honor's wisdom,

and I am your Honor's

most obedient humble servant,

JEDEDIAH ELDERKIN.

Windham, November 15, 1775.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, December, 1775.

In the Lower House.

The within report is accepted, and his Honor the Governor with his Council of Safety be appointed, authorized, and empowered to take measures for carrying the same into execution in the best and most speedy manner.

Concurred in by the Upper House.

Test, RICHARD LAW, Clerk.  
Test, GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

## LIST OF OFFICERS TAKEN BY THE BRITISH AT QUEBEC.

DECEMBER 31st, 1775.

The following is a list of the officers taken by the British at the attack upon Quebec on the 31st day of December, 1775. Capt. D. Morgan, Lieut. William Heath, Lieut. Peter Bruin, slightly wounded, J. M. Guin, Charles Potterfield, Lieut. Archibald Steel, wounded, John Henry, Lieut. Francis Nichols, Matthew Duncan, Maj. John Lamb, Lieut. Andrew Moody, Capt. Oliver Hanchet, Capt. Samuel Lockwood, Abijah Savage, Qr. Master Benjamin Catlin, Capt. Eleazer Oswald, Col. C. Green, Capt. J. Tappan, wounded, Capt. Samuel Ward, Capt. Simon Thayer, Lieut. James Webb, Lieut. William Humphreys, Lieut. E. Slocum, S. Shaw, Maj. Timothy Bigelow, Capt. William Goodrich, Lieut. Samuel Brown, Lieut. John Compton, Lieut. John Clark, Lieut. James Tisdale, wounded, Capt. H. Dearborn, Lieut. Nathaniel Hutchins, Lieut. Ammi Andrews, Lieut. Joseph Thomas, Adjutant C. Foberger, a Danish officer, and about 300 privates. [Connecticut Courant.]

## LETTERS FROM JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO GOV. TRUMBULL.

CAMBRIDGE, February 29, 1776.

HON'D. SIR,—We are now very busily employed in preparing the horrid machines of war, death, and destruction. Sunday night is fixed on, as the time to take possession of Dorchester Hill, and Camp Hill, on Noddle's Island. The frost prevents our digging, therefore have prepared chandeliers and mantalets, to fill with cord wood and facines, to answer the same purpose. At the same time our floating batteries and flat-bottom boats are all prepared and fully ready for use. Our cannon, a full number, are mounted; 40 rounds of cartridges of each size filled, and 40 rounds for small arms. Six large mortars, and a number of smaller ones are fixed; the shells and carcasses filled, and fuzes drove. The river is now opened, and the floating batteries are getting down. Our posts at Cobble Hill, Letchmere Point, and Lamb's Dam, are nearly ready; the platforms, mortar, beds and blankets finished. Our taking Dorchester Hill, will draw out the enemy. The party at Noddle's Island, will divert the fleet, and Bunker's Hill. If they sally on Dorchester Point, they must leave not more than 1,200 men in the town. If, therefore, they make a spirited attack on that party—a party from the middle division of the army will, with the floating battery and boats attack the town, under a British cannonade and bombardment from Cobble Hill, Letchmere Point, and Lamb's Dam. If the enemy should not attempt the party on Dorchester as soon as they are well established, we shall begin a brisk cannonade and bombardment on the town, from that and the other posts named, which we conceive must make the den very warm.



## FROM THE SAME TO GOV. TRUMBULL.

MARCH 1st, 1776.

HON'D. SIR,—The crisis of public affairs, big with the fate of America, approach with uncommon rapidity, which engross the thoughts, and fills the breast of every friend to his country with anxiety. How amazing is it that the *sons* of America should seek her ruin! I am led to these reflections from the conduct of New York; the defection there appears more apparent than ever. I am told not a barrel of salt provisions is to be had there, for the army, thousands of which have been shipped within these three months, no doubt a great part to the ministerial traitors, at Boston. Tryon that avowed enemy to our liberties they caress; the language in their streets has been the men of war are their protection, and wished the ministerial troops in their streets as thick as they could stand; that they feared nothing but the locusts from New England. Their Congress refused Col. Waterbury admittance into their barracks; but he entered them without their consent. They have taken every measure possible to prevent the assembling an army there; a countermand to Col. Dickerson with his regiment on their march from Pennsylvania was forged, and he stopped thereby. It is more than probable, many of them were privy to that, (blacker than powder) plot of Tryon's to introduce Clinton, with his ministerial butchers there. Yet notwithstanding all this, by their address and intrigue, Col. McDougale, who never was in actual service, is Gen. Lee's second, and will take the command there until Gen. Schuyler arrives. Lord Sterling is next to McDougale, who likewise was never in the service. Col. Waterbury is reduced from his rank, and for no other pretence, but that he had not a continental commission. Thus that army is deprived of the most experienced and bravest officers in the continent. Such measures give great uneasiness. I cannot but think some better regulations, and more effectual measures must be taken for the security of that place. I fear the committee from the British Parliament will tend to divide us. I now see no other way left, but we must declare and avow the principles of common sense, which are the prevailing sentiments here. We are declared rebels; and they are pursuing measures as far as they are able accordingly, to butcher us, as they did the poor innocent Carebbes. Can we expect any foreign assistance, while we acknowledge dependence on and subjection to the British Crown?

## GOV. TRUMBULL'S LETTER TO THE DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

MARCH, 1776.

In a letter from Gov. Trumbull, dated Lebanon, 9th of March, 1776, to the Honorable R. Sherman, O. Wolcott, and Samuel Huntington, delegates to the Continental Congress at Philadelphia,—He acknowledges the receipt of his letter of the 19th of February; also 17 pay rolls by Mr. Hooper, and 15 pay rolls by the last post, with Gen. Washington's certificate; also informing them that the furnace at Salisbury was preparing, the hearth laying, ore, coal, and every necessary for casting, to have it in blast, and to cast cannon as large as 24 pounders, by the close of next month, or early in May. A new construction of cannon had been received, the weight of one to carry a 36 pound ball, not more than one of the old 24 pounders—four pounds of powder a charge to do good execution, a great saving in the scarcity of powder—to be found in a treatise, by John Muller, professor of artillery and fortifications, and requested them to send him one, as it might be of great service to him.

He then says, "an extract from a letter of the 29th of February, is enclosed



Cannonading and bombarding began on Saturday night, four of the iron mortars are burst, and the brass Congress cracked and unfit for service, until new founded ; two provincials killed. On Monday night a party of 3,000 took possession of Dorchester Hill, and are likely to establish themselves there without much opposition—may the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, give them success, dispossess our enemies of the strong hold where they have trampled on the properties of the poor distressed Bostonians and profaned the places dedicated to sacred use."

He stated, that the ordering Gen. Lee to Canada, was not pleasing to many ; that the dangers at New York appeared more threatening than at Quebec ; stated that the Macaroni brought us only four tons of gun powder ; that he had supplied Gen. Washington largely from Connecticut. He hoped four tons would be replaced ; one ton to be lodged at Fairfield, one at New Haven, and two tons at Middletown, as soon as he could write for it from Philadelphia ; 728 pounds of powder was sent in casks to Canada. He stated that salt petre was making in considerable quantities ; each town obliged by law to erect works to manufacture it ; also, that powder mills at Windham and Hartford were erecting, and would be ready for use ; spoke of the scarcity of sulphur ; that there was a plenty of it at Montserat ; that search was making to find it in Connecticut ; that there was an appearance of it in plenty at Gay Head, on Martha's Vineyard ; that he would soon inform them of the smelting of lead at Middletown.

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CAMBRIDGE, 6th of March, 1776.

HON'D. SIR,—On Saturday evening last, at 11 o'clock, I went on Letchmere's Point, to see and hear the serenade of the night ; as had been before ordered, a musket was fired at that place as a signal for the firing a 24 pounder at Cobble Hill, after which a 13 inch shell was thrown from Letchmere's Point, and immediately after a 13 inch shell from Lamb's Dam ; they were all aimed at the town of Boston, and pursued their direction extremely well. I stayed there until near 2 o'clock, during which time a number of shots and shells were hove into that poor devoted town, and ten for one returned from them to us. This serenade was kept up until day light, and then ceased. Just as I came off from the fort, and had advanced 50 or 60 yards towards the bridge, came over the fort from town, four shells and six shot, which burst and fell around us like a shower of hail ; it was in vain to attempt to dodge the shot ; the shells we could see and evade, but they came so fast, that while we were dodging from one, we ran in the way of another, but happily we got safe off, and unhurt any of the party. The day before we had placed a 13 inch and a 10 inch mortar in Letchmere's Point ; a 13 inch and a 10 inch mortar in Lamb's Dam, and the 13 inch brass mortar was also intended for Cobble Hill that night, but the excessive hardness of the frost rendered it impossible for the men to prepare her bed. Before the morning the 13 inch and 10 inch mortars on Letchmere's Point, and the 10 inch in Lamb's Dam all burst, but hurt no one but Col. Mason of the train, who had his leg bruised by the bursting of the 10 inch mortar at Lamb's Dam, where he was chief engineer for the night. The intent of this night's cannonade and bombardment, was to keep up the enemy, fatigue and harass them. On Sunday the 13 inch brass mortar was got to her place in Cobble Hill, and at 9 o'clock the cannonade and bombardment was resumed on our part, and returned as vigor.

ously by the enemy ; but unfortunately at 12 o'clock, with the third charge, this mortar also burst. The two first shells from her, fell short of the town ; the engineer, Col. Borbank, at the third discharge, increased the charge of powder, and the shell went full into the town, but the britch of the mortar gave way. Col. Gridley said when he first saw her, and ever repeated it, even when she was going from the artillery park, that she was too slim in that part and would burst ; it proved so,—but she has gone to Abington to be re-cast. I rather fancy that had she been bedded in sand, we should not have lost her, but our engineers are book men, and they don't speak sand. The cannonade and bombardment were continued all night till morning, as the night before.

On Monday the proper dispositions were all made for taking post on the heights of Dorchester Point ; going upon Noddle's Island was before overruled in council, as not best. Three hundred teams, consisting of those belonging to the camp and the neighboring towns, were collected, and loaded with the necessary articles for the business, and about 2,500 men paraded, and the whole marched on upon the Neck, at dark, under the command of Gen. Thomas, who has conducted the matters with great wisdom and discretion. All concerned have acquitted themselves with great alacrity and honor. Every thing went on well, and they got themselves well covered before morning ; indeed I believe there never was so much work done in so short a time, and so well as that night. As soon as the party moved forward, a signal was given, and a very cannonade and bombardment began on the town, and was returned as warmly from the town, which continued the whole night incessantly. Near 300 shot and shells were thrown into the town, and they returned four or five for one. We by this means drew off their attention from Dorchester, and they vented their whole spleen by endeavoring to throw shells into Cambridge ; but they could not reach the colleges by near a mile ; this served our purpose, and the morning being a little hazy, we imagine they never discovered our post on Dorchester till near 8 o'clock in the morning. We fired the last gun in the morning, and there was a profound silence with the enemy, until about 11 o'clock in the morning ; the haze going off, they discovered our people heaving up a strong redoubt at the foot of the great hill, on a little eminence at the end of the causeway ; upon which they began to cannonade them from their battery of 32 pounders on the Neck, but did not molest or disturb them at all—they kept on their works. At 1 o'clock I was at Roxbury ; it seemed as if it had been raining men for some time. The general had ordered over two regiments from Cambridge, and had called in five regiments of minute men, and as many more almost, had come in volunteers, well armed and ready to take part in the conflict. To the honor of the militia in the neighborhood, it was said, they have behaved nobly on the occasion ; and I can't but say here also, that when those who had teams in the neighborhood were called on for their assistance, not the least excuse was made, but one and all with one voice, said, *yes ! I am ready—I will go with my team ;* and many more came to assist than were called on, or than could be made use of. The tide served, at 12 o'clock, for the enemy to have sallied, which was fully expected, but we were wholly disappointed ; had they made a determined and vigorous attack on Dorchester Point, our floating battery, and boats of all kinds sufficient to carry 4,500 men, were all ready, field artillery, &c. &c., prepared ; and Gen. Putnam, with two brigadiers, and the number of men above mentioned, were to have gone into Boston from this place, and landed on the common, back of the

town ; but their sitting atill, and looking on our people at work on Dorchester, and not attempting to go out of their den, has defeated this part of our plan at present. In the afternoon, the enemy have been busied in getting their effects, &c., on ship board ; and it yet remains with us uncertain, whether they will run away and leave us setting fire to Boston to light them ; or whether they will first come out, and attempt to flog us before they go ; and if they fail in their attempt, then go on board ship and go off ; or whether they will push off their most valuable effects, women, children, &c. &c., and keep the den as long as they can, in hope of reinforcement.

Monday night we had a mulatto man, of Col. Sargeant's regiment, killed at Letchmere's Point, by the bursting of a shell which fell into the fort ; and at Roxbury, a Lieut. Major of the militia of that town, at 4 o'clock in the morning, parading his men to go to Dorchester Point, had his thigh shot away near his body, of which wound he died before sun rise. These are all the men we have had killed ; and Col. Mason, and two or three more, are slightly wounded, no one badly ; nor have they hurt any of our works, &c. Many of our shots and shells went fully into the town, and made a most horrid crashing, but what damage has been done we know not. We are in hourly expectation of some deserter, or some of the town's people making their escape to give us intelligence ; but hitherto we know nothing. Last night we had no cannonade or bombardment ; our design was answered in getting post on Dorchester, and they never began or continued, after we desisted ; but in the night, came on a most violent storm of wind at the south, which has blown down some, and unroofed other houses, and we conceive must have done great injury to the enemy's ships and boats. Last evening a ship and two brigs put off from Boston, full of troops, we supposed, to be landed on the back of Dorchester, but they are said this morning to be on shore, on Governor's Island, opposite the castle. The signal for an alarm is out at Roxbury, and I must stop. Thursday evening the alarm proved nothing ; every thing remains quiet, and our works go on well ; by Saturday night we shall take possession of Nook Point, next Boston, from thence our small mortars, howitzers, and cohorts will reach the town and the ships, which will try their metal and determine their intentions, which I begin to suspect is to remain as quiet as possible, till their reinforcements arrive. We have no intelligence from town yet.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To Gov. Trumbull.

MARCH 10th, 1776.

GENTLEMEN,—I received the foregoing per post, last evening, near 9 o'clock ; have hurried over a copy for your information.

Yours, &c.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Sherman, Wolcott, and Huntington, Esq's.

#### GOVERNOR BROWN TAKEN PRISONER.

APRIL, 1776.

Montfort Brown, Esq., Governor of New Providence, was taken a prisoner, and sent to this State, to the Governor and Council of Safety, by Admiral Hopkins. He came in charge of Collector Stewart, on the 17th day of April, 1776.

The Governor of Connecticut enquired of Mr. Stewart, whether Gov. Brown was considered a prisoner ; if so, what was his crime ? Admiral Hopkins' letter was shewn him, and Mr. Stewart informed him that it was his duty to hold Gov. Brown in the same character the commander-in-chief of the continental fleet delivered him, and could not recede from it. And desired Gov. Brown to sign a parole prepared for him, with an assurance of kind treatment according to his rank. He declined signing it, as he considered it dishonorable ; but gave his honor as a Governor and a gentleman, to abide at Windham, and abide directions, until orders should be received from Congress. Gov. Brown mentioned his bodily indisposition ; his baggage being at New London, he returned there, and agreed on his parole to return to Windham, on Wednesday or or Thursday of the next week.

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MAY 26, 1776.

The selectmen of Ridgefield, in their petition, dated May 26, A. D. 1776, to the General Assembly, stated that the British in their incursion, and on their retreat from Danbury, passed through Ridgefield, and in so passing burned the griet mill and saw mill of Isaac Keeler ; also burned six dwelling houses and two barns, and killed and carried off a number of horses, sheep, and cattle. That the enemy took up their quarters there over night, when they plundered the inhabitants of nearly all their provisions, and a large share of their clothing, by which many were reduced to poverty, and the town unable to relieve all the sufferers ; therefore prayed the Assembly to grant them relief. Upon which a committee was appointed ; and an order given the pay table on the Treasurer in favor of the selectmen, for the sum of £250, to be used for the immediate relief of such persons as could not subsist without such relief.

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JUNE, 1776.

In June, 1776, ninety-eight persons of the town of Goshen, signed a memorial to the General Assembly of this colony ; in which they stated that many of their inhabitants had enlisted in the continental army at the north ; that many of them had the small pox, and were in necessitous circumstances for clothing, &c., and had applied to their friends and parents for aid, but as the inhabitants of Goshen had not had the disorder, they feared to go to their relief ; and a number of men were then called for, to be raised for defence, the enlisting of which was impeded by the fear of taking said disease. That the people of Goshen were much exposed by the return of soldiers from the north ; that it was then spreading on the road from Canada to Goshen. Also stated that a place in said Goshen had been selected, one mile from any road, convenient for a pest house ; and asked liberty of said Assembly, for the privilege of inoculating, without regard to the laws on said subject, under such rules as said Assembly should prescribe. Which petition was negatived by both Houses.

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On the 19th of June, 1776, a company of householders were formed, in the town of Sharon, and furnished themselves with warlike accoutrements, chose their officers, viz. : Caleb Tait, captain ; Robert Stedman, lieutenant, and Joseph Lord, ensign, and reported themselves according to the law of the colony.

July 4th, 1776. A similar company was formed in the town of Waterbury, and Jotham Curtis was chosen captain ; Timothy Pond, lieutenant, and Samuel Scovil, ensign.

## RESOLUTIONS INSTRUCTING THE DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

JUNE, 1776.

In June, 1776, the General Assembly of this colony, passed resolutions to instruct the delegates of this colony, in Congress, to propose to Congress to declare the United Colonies free and independent States, absolved from all allegiance to the King of Great Britain; and to give the assent of this colony to such declaration, when they should think expedient; and to what measures they should think proper and necessary by Congress for forming foreign alliances, or plan of operation for mutual defence. To move and promote as speedy as convenient, a regular and permanent plan of union and confederation of the colonies for the security and preservation of their just rights and liberties, and for mutual defence and security. Saving that the administration of Government, and the power of forming Governments for, and the regulation of the internal concerns and police of each colony, ought to be left and remain to the Colonial Legislatures; and that such plan of confederation should be laid before such respective Legislatures for their previous consideration and assent.

JULY, 1776.

Jedediah Elderkin, as chairman of a committee, reported to the General Assembly, that the inhabitants of the town of Saybrook, should be permitted to build a small battery for six carriage guns, at some convenient place in said town. That 20 men should be taken from the regiments then ordered raised for the defence of New London, &c., to join said inhabitants in erecting said battery, and defending the same, for such time as the commanding officer of said regiment should direct; and that three guns then there should be mounted on carriages, and three more provided; and a sufficient quantity of powder and balls be provided for said guns, at the expense of the public.

## LETTER FROM GOV. TRUMBULL TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS, ESQ.,

GIVING A STATEMENT OF THE ARMY IN CANADA.

LEBANON, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR,—I intend to give you the state of our army from Canada. Enclosed is a copy of Maj. Ely's report, on the subject of the small pox, with which he was charged. From others, with some things I learn from him, I think it apparent that our troops went most imprudently into inoculation near Quebec; and when the enemy came out upon them, our army fled when there was little force to pursue; that discontent, disorder, and confusion had taken place—clamor for want of supplies of clothing, provisions, and wages—and by degrees discipline and subordination failed; every thing was neglected that tended to a reform. When Gen. Burgoyne, with the troops under him arrived, a general dispiritedness appeared; the force at the Cedars was very inconsiderable, not more than 37 regulars, with 200 or 300 Indians; that the latter were loath to go, and mostly tarried at Oswagatchi. Had our men behaved well, that defeat would not have happened; this was occasioned by the same causes that are just before mentioned. Why they were in such manner neglected, and left without supplies and without their wages, is matter of wonder and astonishment; and last spring there were ten battalions, amounting to about 6,400 men sent from New York to join this army. There were at the same time, in Canada, two battalions of Pennsylvanians, three from New England, one or two from

Jersey; all of them strong, amounting at least to 4,000 men more, which, joined with the others, made the army upwards of 10,000 strong. There are now 3,000 sick, and about 3,000 well; this leaves near 5,000 to be accounted for; of them, the enemy have cast perhaps 1,000—sickness another 1,000—which leaves near 3,000; in what manner they are disposed of, is unknown. Among those who remain, there is neither order, subordination, or harmony; the officers as well as men, of one colony, insulting and quarrelling with those of another.

This wretched situation of our troops, induced the general officers in a council of war, to determine on a retreat to Ticonderoga, and conclude on occupying a post on the east side of the lakes, very advantageous; it is a height opposite the old works, which commands the entrance of the lakes Champlain and George; it is almost inaccessible, except in two places, where they propose roads; the rest is surrounded by rocks and precipices. Supplies may be easily had from Skeensborough, at the head of lake Champlain; from hence they expect easily to retire into the country—this, without a naval superiority on the lakes, they will be obliged to do, notwithstanding the strength of their camp, unless very soon joined by 6,000 or 8,000 men. How they will maintain their naval superiority, I must confess myself much at a loss. They build a gondola, perhaps one in a week; but where are they to find rigging for them—where the guns? To be sure they have a great train of artillery, but very few of them mounted on carriages; at present their materials and conveniencies for making them are very slender. They have neither places fit for them to work in, nor materials in that plenty, they ought to have. To oppose the enemy on the lake, they have a schooner of 12 carriage guns, a sloop of 8 guns, two small schooners to carry 4 or 6 each, and three gondolas, and the large schooner is now in good sailing order, and about to take a trip down the lake, to make discovery. The sloop is a most unmanageable thing; it is impossible to beat up against a head wind in her. The two small schooners are not armed—the gondolas are not armed—and even the carriages of their guns are yet to be made. The enemy are at St. John's, repairing the works at that place, and building three schooners and two sloops; they have no doubt every thing ready to their hands, the rigging made, the guns mounted, and only the wooden work to perform, in which I fear they will have the advantage.

Gen. Sullivan set off to New York and Philadelphia, in disgust at being superseded by Gen. Gates; the latter was ordered to command in Canada; the army from thence being retreated within the limits of New York, the command devolves on Gen. Schuyler. It is justly to be expected that Gen. Gates is discontented with his situation; finding himself limited, and removed from the command, to be a wretched spectator of the ruin of the army, without power of attempting to save them. A truly melancholy scene. Gen. Schuyler has gone to German Flats; writes me July 17th, "I arrived here yesterday, and found very few Indians. This day 150 Indians have come in, and we expect a numerous body of them in a few days. Mr. Rychman, a trader from Albany, who has been detained at Niagara, by the British officer commanding there since last year, because he was a friend to our cause, and had influence among the savages, has found means, by *the help of the Indians*, to make his escape. I arrived here last night, accompanied by 21 warriors, of the Seneca Nation. The account he brings of the temper of the Senecas, (the nation who could distress

us most,) is very favorable ; and he assures me, that he has reason to believe the Indians will not attack our frontiers.”

You are sensible the extreme busy season retards the filling our regiment going to New York ; and to this is added the dread of the small pox to those enlisting to go into service in the northern army. Now as business will soon admit men to leave it, without so much loss, and the fear of that infection prevailing in the northern army is relieved in so great a measure, I hope the battalions from this State will all be filled, and march to their several destinations. Nothing in our power will be omitted to promote it. My fears for the northern army and frontiers are great, besides what is mentioned above, and Maj. Ely's report. A reform is absolutely necessary ; the soldiers are ragged, dirty, and many lousy ; clothing greatly wanted—some destitute of sufficiency to make themselves comfortable and decent to appear ; to remedy this, shall send from hence, shirts, trowsers, breeches, shoes, stockings, and some woolen cloths, as soon as possible. Subordination and harmony is next to be restored ; to do this, the officer that effects it, will meet with great trouble ; and when done, will expect to reap the honors of it. To prevent uneasiness and jealousies between the generals who were to have had the command in Canada, and in New York, why is it not best, and even just, each command the same body of men as expected, without respect to the plan ; where Gen. Schuyler will have full employment at Albany, and below on the river, and at Tryon county, &c., while Gen. Gates commands the same army at Ticoderoga, &c., which it was expected he would have had in Canada. The good of the general service is the great object. Doth not a regard to what will keep up harmony, and prevent jealousies, come within it ?

Capt. Winslow, and his party of ship carpenters are arrived, and gone to work. Capt. Lester's going by water, did not get to New York until the river was invested with the ships, and they were obliged to take to the land. The 1,000 felling axes, requested by Gen. Schuyler, are provided, and will be sent forward on Monday. Your kinsman is come to preach to us. Your family is well. Mr. Gerry keeps Sabbath here. Mr. Jay came here Friday for the loan of cannon to use on the North river. The twenty 9 pound cannon for the ships are ready for use, boared and drilled ; and we have lent him ten 12 and ten 6 pounders. Mssrs. Hobart and John Broom were here yesterday, a committee from the New York Convention, to ask our assistance. They found we had made provisions, that six western regiments, next towards New York, might be called on by Gen. Washington, if needed ; this was one chief thing they had to ask. It is time to break off. This letter may be communicated, as you think fit—with my compliments to the other delegates, &c.

With esteem and regard, dear Sir,

Your affectionate

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

P. S. By Friday's post, received Lord How's letter of the 20th of June, ult. and his declaration of pardons to all those who, in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing, by speedy return to their duty, to reap the benefits of the royal favor ; that pardons shall be granted, dutiful representation received, and every suitable encouragement given for promoting such measures, as shall be conducive as to the establishing legal government and peace, in pursuance of His Majesty's most gracious purposes. In his letter he says, “ I have judged it expedient to issue the enclosed



declaration, in order that all persons may have immediate information of His Majesty's gracious intentions." He desires me to promulgate it, assured of being favored with my assistance in every measure to restore the public tranquillity ; and requests such information as will facilitate the attainment of that important object. I shall by next post forward copies of both to Congress ; to them I shall refer him. Who began the war ? Who withdrew his protection ? Who refused to hearken to most dutiful and humble petitions ? Who invaded our rights ? Is not the appeal made to the Supreme Director of all events ? Will not the Judge of all the earth do right ? Doth not pardon pre-suppose guilt ? Are we guilty of want of duty and allegiance ? Could any thing but tyranny, oppression, injustice, cruel war and desolation, have driven us to cast off our mother country ?

William Williams, Esq.

August, 1776.

By a petition of Ebenezer Rogers, Judah Howd, Stephen Todd, Isaac Ingram, Jr., Samuel Monson, Jr., Simcon Johnson, Joseph Rogers, Robert Pierpont, John Fowler, Jr., and Joseph Brockway, Jr., of Branford, it appears that on the 12th day of August, 1776, they marched for New York in Capt. Baldwin's company, under Col. Fitch, and there discharged their duty until the forepart of September, when they were taken sick with the dysentery and fevers, and were unable to do duty ; yet remained in New York until the 14th of September, when general orders were given for all the sick to be removed off the island of New York ; and at their own expense, carriages were provided, and carried them as far as Rye, where they remained several days, without a supply of necessaries, and nearly without shelter, and in a feeble state of health. They hoped that some place would be provided for them ; unable to travel far, their money nearly expended, when they supposed they must perish without relief ; though providentially an opportunity offered for them to go to Branford by water, and they embarked on the 22d day of said September, only three days before their regiment was discharged ; by which misfortunes, they were returned as deserters, and therefore received no pay or wages, &c. ; and prayed the Assembly to pay their wages while absent, and the expense of their sickness. (Which petition was negatived.)

August 1776.

The following men were returned as dead and deserted soldiers, on board the brig Defence, under Capt. Harding, in 1776, viz. : James Young, George Geo, John Howard, Richard Fry, Jared Ervin, Peter Thorp, Edward Ingraham, John Brown, Solomon Brown, Joseph Thomas, John Basson, James Maden, and William Harrison. £72 : 9 : 7 was paid to deserters and deceased.

August, 1776.

Gov. Trumbull, on the 12th day of August, 1776, issued an order to John McCall, of Norwich, captain of the company of Veteran Guards in the 20th regiment of militia, in this State, in which he stated that he had received a pressing requisition from Gen. Washington, for a reinforcement of the army under his command in New York, to be taken from the militia as soon as possible ; and directed him forthwith, to convene his company, and as many others as would enlist, to the number of 93 with the officers ; and march them immediately, in the most convenient way, by land or water, to the city of New York, and there join the 19th regiment of Connecticut militia, under the command of Gen. Washington.



State by Commodore Hopkins. Capt. Walker was of opinion that if Mr. Babbage could be suffered to return on his parole, he would be of infinite service to the trade of that island, in pursuing the trade with the State. Commodore Hopkins had uniformly given Mr. Babbage a good character.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 1776.

William Livingston, Esq., Governor of New Jersey, informed the Governor of Connecticut, by letter, dated September 19, 1776, that Mr. Franklin, (then late Governor of New Jersey,) had possessed himself of a chest, which contained minutes of the Council of said State, examinations in the Council, and other papers of consequence to that State, as was supposed, a few days previous to his apprehension, for the purpose of secreting them, which they had not been able, by the most diligent search to recover. The Governor of New Jersey, therefore, (as Gov. Franklin was a prisoner in Connecticut,) wished the State authorities of Connecticut to interpose, and cause the said Franklin, and his servant Thomas, who was suspected of being privy to said concealment, to be examined on oath, relative to said matter; the said Thomas to be first examined, and before he should have an opportunity to consult with his master. The General Assembly appointed Matthew Talcott, Esq., to examine said Thomas under oath; also to examine Gov. Franklin on oath, as to the concealment, removal, and detention of said papers.

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#### NORWALK MEMORIAL.

OCTOBER 25, 1776.

The committee of inspection, the selectmen, and justices of the peace, of the town of Norwalk, presented their memorial to the General Assembly, in which they stated, that on the 24th of said October, they had taken into their custody a number of their inhabitants, as tories, and were apprehending others constantly; and prayed they should be tried, and have a day in court to defend; though the populace entirely disapproved of such a procedure, because the law would only disarm them, which would not prevent plotting and planning, in a secret manner, their ruin, and by being permitted then to go at large, would have the better opportunity to plot their destruction. The memorialists were convinced, from the danger apprehended, they would not suffer the tories to go at large, but would hold them in custody, and not suffer them to be tried by the authority, &c.; therefore that the town stood in the greatest need of the speedy interposition of the General Assembly that justice should be done; and prayed for a disinterested committee to be immediately sent to Norwalk, at the expense of those they should judge just and right, with full powers in the premises.

The same memorialists were informed that the major of the 9th regiment had received orders to march the military companies and effective men of Norwalk to Horse Neck, and there to rendezvous until farther orders; and that the inhabitants unanimously deemed themselves in a very dangerous situation, and expected momentarily to be attacked by the enemy and plundered; that if said order should be effected, they considered themselves stripped of all defence, without a single person left to watch and ward, or make any opposition in case of an attack, while their interest and families would be left to the merciless ravages of a blood-thirsty, cruel, and barbarous enemy, and a large number of tories; that their inhabitants were much alarmed and very unwilling to leave

their homes ; and prayed that their militia might be stationed at Norwalk, which would satisfy their inhabitants far better than to be sent to Horse Neck ; and that it would be quite impossible, if any other regiments should be ordered to Norwalk, to billet them in the town, as all the previous vacant houses were occupied by 400 or 500 sick soldiers, and if their own militia remained in the town it would save the expense of camp utensils and quartering, and prayed for relief.

#### A PETITION FROM NEW HAVEN TO THE GOVERNOR, &c.

OCTOBER, 1776.

It stated, That the memorialists, from their maritime situation, are more exposed to the destructive measures of our internal enemies, than their brethren who live more remote from the sea coast ; as the conveyance of intelligence to the British army, who are now in possession of the whole of Long Island, is liable to less interruption, than if there was a tract of inhabited country to travel through, before the camps of our enemies could be entered. These circumstances, added to a full persuasion and belief that there are persons, now residents in this town, who at least would rejoice at the loss of our liberties, and we fear, contribute their mite to the obtaining that end, induce us to approach your Honors on the present occasion. We should esteem ourselves very unfortunate, should we, in our zeal for the preservation of our liberties, entertain jealousies of any that are really friends to our country ; but if an early disapprobation of Congressional measures ; frequent assertions that we should certainly be overcome ; that it was in vain to enter the lists against so potent a power as Great Britain, invariably treating, with singular marks of approbation the professed enemies of American liberty ; in short, if an uniformity of conduct, the completion of which bears striking marks of their suspected character, will justify suspicion, we flatter ourselves we shall stand acquitted by your Honors of the imputation of feigning our fears.

Your Honors will permit us to point out the persons we have particularly in view : Abiather Camp, James Curgenvin, William Glen, Edward Carrington, Ambrose Ward, and Ralph Isaacs are the men we have in our eye ; besides particular acts and expressions of these men, which will admit of no construction but what pronounces them unfriendly to the general cause ; they have by the whole tenor of their conduct, evinced to us most clearly the same point.—We therefore consider their residence among us to be dangerous to our safety. We are every night exposed to be destroyed by our open enemies ; we live on their borders, separated only by a few miles of water, the absolute command of which is in their hands ; our internal enemies intimately acquainted with our harbors, and our defenceless situation can introduce them into our houses ; can involve us, our property, our wives, and our little ones in ruin, before we apprehend their approach. The great law of self-preservation, therefore, calls upon us to leave no avenue unguarded—no measure that will procure our safety unessayed. As the laws of this State have not provided a remedy adequate to the evil, we are under the necessity of applying to your Honors, for your interposition in our behalf ; praying that your Honors would order and decree, that the aforementioned persons be removed to some interior part of the country ; or that your Honors would in some other way make provisions for our security. This mode

of procedure, we conceive, is not unprecedented among civilized nations ; and, if we are rightly informed, was very recently adopted by a neighboring State, with regard to persons whose conduct had not afforded more grounds for jealousy than the conduct of those persons we have pointed out to your Honors. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

New Haven, September 17, 1776.

(Signed)

Lamberton Smith, James Gilbert, Thomas Wilmott, Allen Mather, Jonathan Osborne, John Scott, Josiah Burr, Ather Jervis, Abel Burritt, Michael Todd, Nathaniel Fitch, Samuel Munson, Edward Meloy, David Gilbert, Silas Merri-  
man, Jonathan Edwards, Amos Gilbert, Samuel Horton, Zephaniah Hatch,  
Ezekiel Hotchkiss, William Scott, John Alling, David Osborne, John Mire,  
Jeremiah Parmalee, Jr., Ebenezer Lines, Caleb Hotchkiss, Hezekiah Parmalee,  
Stephen Bradley, Pierpont Edwards, John Wise, Samuel Wilmott, Eliphalet  
Brush, William Doak, Samuel Huggins, David Dongal, Joseph Peck, Fitch  
Allin, Joel Gilbert, Joseph Hull, Timothy Bradley, Henry Daggett, Samuel  
Clark, Hezekiah Sabin, Jr., Elias Beers, Caleb Ford, Robert Townsend, Isaac  
Doolittle, Silas Kimberly, Ebenezer Townsend, Jacob Daggett, Benjamin  
Dorchester, Benjamin Brown, John Sherman, Jr., Isaac Bishop, Stephen Her-  
rick, Jacob Pinto, Abraham Pinto, Jonathan Austin, Isnac Jones, Major  
Lines, I. Cosens Ogden, John Lathrop, Stephen Hotchkiss, John Benham, Asa  
Hotchkiss, John Pierpont, Philip Binford, Phineas Bradley, Paul Noyce, Ste-  
phen Peck, Jonathan Brigden, Nathan Beers, Giles Mansfield, John Storrs, Jr.,  
James Prescott, Samuel Thacher, Israel Munson, William Punderson, Gold  
Sherman, Samuel Squire, Isaac Gorham, Benjamin Woodin, Isaac Sears, Sam-  
uel Green, Tuley Blakslee, Ezekiel Eays, David Beecher, Job Potter, Samuel  
Clark, Jonathan Brown, Joseph Mix, Stephen Sanford, Jr., Jonathan Mire,  
Stephen Pardee, Samuel Griswold, Enoch Moulthrop, Aaron Gilbert, John  
Hotchkiss, Nathan Dummer, John Denison, Joseph Smith.

A true copy, as on file,

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety, September 27, 1776.—  
Upon the memorial of Isaac Doolittle and others, inhabitants of the town of  
New Haven, setting forth the fears and apprehensions they are under on account  
of sundry persons suspected of being inimical to the liberties of America ; pray-  
ing this Board to take the matter up, and order and decree such suspected per-  
sons to be removed, &c., as per memorial, dated September 17, 1776 :

Voted, That the consideration of said memorial, and the matters therein con-  
tained, be referred to the Hon. General Assembly, to be holden at New Haven,  
on the second Thursday of October next ; and that in the mean time a citation  
go forth thereon, to cite said suspected persons therein complained of, to appear  
before said Assembly, to make answer thereto ; and that the civil authority,  
selectmen, and committee of inspection for said town, be directed to make en-  
quiry, and collect the evidence relating thereto, and lay the same before said  
Assembly, that justice may be done thereon.

A true copy of record,

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

On the final trial Ralph Isaacs and Abiather Camp were found guilty.

## STONINGTON MEMORIAL.

OCTOBER 11, 1776.

To the Honorable the General Assembly, now sitting at New Haven :

The memorial of the committee of correspondence and inspection of the town of Stonington, and sundry of the inhabitants of said town, most humbly sheweth—That whereas your Honors thought fit in your last session, in May, to grant for the defence and protection of this place, a captain and 90 men; since which one-half have been ordered to New London. Your Honors may remember, that this town is the only one in this State, that has received any damage from those sons of tyranny and despotism, sent by that more than savage tyrant, George the Third, to deprive us of those unalienable rights that the Supreme Governor of Heaven and Earth has invested us with.

Your memorialists therefore pray that the number of men ordered and destined as above, may still be continued; and that the two 18 pounders and four 12 pounders, and shot, &c., that were ordered in your former session for this place, may be delivered as soon as possible; as the harbor is perhaps more used by coasters, and vessels bound to sea, than any harbor in this State; and is a place of great consequence, not only to this, but other States. We therefore beg leave to inform your Honors, that several vessels have lately been chased into this harbor by the King's ships, and have here been protected.

Your memorialists further pray, that the three large cannon, (now at New London) belonging to this town, be likewise ordered to this place; and the two field pieces that were lent by this town to the town of New London, be ordered back to the town of Stonington. We therefore flatter ourselves that this our most reasonable request will be granted. And your memorialists, as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Stonington, October 11th, 1776.

(Signed)

Nathaniel Minor, Paul Wheeler, John Brow, Jr., John Denison, Henry Babcock, Simon Rhodes, Committee.

Joseph Denison, Alexander Bradford, Robert Stanton, Nathan Palmer, Nathaniel Palmer, Nathan Palmer, Jr., John Daviss, Andrew Palmer, Michael Ash, Lemuel Dewey, John Rathbun, John Rathbun, Jr., Peleg Brown, Elisha Denison, Asa Palmer, Edward Hancox, Jr., Oliver Hilliard, John Dodge, Peter Crary, Clement Minor, Naboth Chesebrough, John Minor, 2d, John Newmon, Andrew Brown, Elkanah Cobb, Samuel Salterlee, Sands Niles, Thomas Robinson, John Denison, 5th, Elijah Utley, James Tripp, Edward Ellis, Zebulon Chesebrough, John Hancox, Samuel Chesebrough, Moses Brumley, Jonathan Gray, William Stak, Henry Burtich, William Chesebrough, James Palmer, Nathaniel Crandall, Jared Crandall, Rufus Palmer, Elijah Palmer, Thomas Stanton, 4th, Asa Lewis, Nathan Hinckley, Elijah Hinckley, John Rock, James Noyes, Jr., Edward Crosby, Wiatt Hinckley, Elihu Babcock, George Batolph, Abel Hinckley, James Noyes, Peleg Noyes, John Randall, Eliphalet Budington, James Cornish, John Breed, Jr., Isaac Brown, Fish Brown, Hempsted Minor, Thomas Randall, John Denison, Joseph Champlin, Walter Palmer, Jedediah Thompson, Thomas Palmer, David Thompson, Charles Thompson, William Thompson, Joseph Vincent, Nathaniel Fanning, Thomas Leeds, Phineas Stanton, Jr., Stephen Babcock, Joseph Page, Gilbert Fanning, Daniel Hobart, John Cotton Rossiter, Eliphalet Hobart, James Hancox, John Hailey, Peleg Chese-

brough, Nathaniel Fellows, Nathaniel Fellows, Jr., Simeon Hiscox, Thomas Hiscox, Israel Lewis, Sylvester Pendleton, Akors Sheffield, William Palmer, Eliphalet Budington, Jr., Charles Welch, Job Taylor, William Scovill.

Rejected in both Houses.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

### GROTON MEMORIAL.

OCTOBER, 1776.

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, to be held at New Haven, on the second Thursday of October, A. D. 1776.

We, your Honors' petitioners, being often alarmed by the appearance of more or less of the King of Great Britain's ships coming near the harbor of New London, and do not know how soon they will come into our harbor, or land a number of troops, and ravage the country near it. And as your Honors are fully acquainted with the sea coast near this harbor, being very much stripped of men, both for the army and navy. For which reasons we, your Honors' petitioners, beg leave to entreat of your Honors to give the necessary orders for the 1st company of militia belonging to this town, to return home; that both their and our wives and children may be partly relieved from the very great anxiety they are now in; and your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Groton, October 11th, 1776.

(Signed)

John Williams, Ezekiel Bailey, Luke Perkins, Vine Starr, Richard Starr, Nathan Forsith, James Starr, Jasper Latham, Walter Budington, Ebenezer Ledyard, Edward Jeffrey, James Street, William Ledyard, Ebenezer Avery, 3d, Elnathan Perkins, Joseph Latham, Jonathan Latham, Christopher Latham, Ebenezer Avery, Elisha Brown, Thomas Lester, Benjamin Bill, Samuel Lester, Nicholas Starr, William Wood, Daniel Latham, Thomas Chester, David Avery, James Avery.

### PETITION OF JAMES WILSON.

NEW HAVEN, October 16, 1776.

James Wilson, a native of Boston, in Massachusetts, represented by his memorial to the General Assembly of this State, that he was boatswain on board the brig Betsey, Robert Knowel, master, commissioned by Congress to cruise against the enemies of the United States, and sailed in said brig from Newburyport, on the 26th of September, 1775, and took two vessels owned by the subjects of the King of Great Britain, and arrived in the French West Indies, and there loaded said brig with ammunition for the United States; but on their return they fell in with the Kingfisher man-of-war, a ship of force acting against the United States, when an obstinate engagement of 22 hours ensued, in which said Wilson was shot through each leg with musket balls, and wounded by small shot in one of his arms, which disabled him; and being at mast-head when shot in his legs, he fell from the same and broke all his ribs on the left side of his body. They soon after submitted to the Kingfisher's superior force, and were carried into Hampton Road, near Norfolk, in Virginia, and there landed, by the cruel order of Lord Dunmore, put on shore with the other wounded men,

without any of the necessaries of life, and in his disabled situation had arrived at New Haven on his way home; that he had lived on charity by begging, and prayed the Assembly to grant him a small sum of money to enable him to return home. The Legislature granted him £3 lawful money.

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OCTOBER, 1776.

The committee appointed to consider the subject matter of a letter from Gen. Schuyler, of the 16th of October, 1776, reported, to request the Governor to issue a proclamation, to order and exhort the militia, and all other effective men in the State, to immediately equip and be in readiness to march upon the shortest notice.

On the subject of a letter of the 15th of October, 1776, they reported, that the 5th regiment of light horse, with the two northern companies in the 1st regiment, under Maj. Sheldon, should forthwith be ordered to march into the province of New York, at or near Fishkill, to be employed at such places as Gen. Washington should direct. The Governor to issue his proclamation accordingly.

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### COMPLAINTS AGAINST TORIES.

OCTOBER, 1776.

It was represented to the General Assembly, that there were a great number of persons in the western towns of Connecticut, who were inimical to the liberties of this and the other States, who were forming dangerous insurrections, and using every method in their power to give intelligence to the enemy, to comfort and assist them, and to distress the inhabitants of their towns, and produce anarchy and confusion among the people. Thomas Fitch, Andrew Adams, and Isaac Lee, Jr., Esq's., were appointed a committee to examine the facts, and report to the Assembly.

A similar complaint was made by the inhabitants of New Haven, of several tories in said town. Capt. Camp was proved to have been in company with Gov. Franklin, Gov. Brown, Babbage, Irwin, &c., who were tories. Mr. Isaacs had been frequently at Gov. Brown's quarters, and walked in the street with him, and seemed to be pleased to be in the company of tories. He declared that in the battle on Long Island, the King's troops suffered or sustained a small loss, and the continental troops a very great loss; and that the continental troops would not stand fire, but would give back, and the people would come in as they had done on Long Island. He requested Joseph King to carry some fine black fish to Gov. Brown, at Middletown; all which was proved on the trial of said Camp and Isaacs. The Assembly ordered them to be removed to the society of Eastbury, in Glastenbury, to remain within its limits, under the direction of the civil authority and selectmen, at their own cost, until further orders; to receive no letters, nor send any to any person, until examined by the civil authority or selectmen, &c. &c.

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OCTOBER 17, 1776.

Caleb Baldwin, of Newtown, in Fairfield county, informed the General Assembly, that on or about the 23d day of November, 1775, there were a number of tories in said town, inimical to the United States; and that about 200 men, the friends of liberty, under the command of Lieut. Col. Ichabod Lewis, proceeded to Newtown, and remained there two days, in reducing and disarming said tories; all of whom, with their horses, were kept at the sole expense of said Baldwin, amounting to about £40 lawful money; and requested remuneration from the State.

## COL. ETHAN ALLEN.

OCTOBER, 1776.

Letters had been sent from Col. Ethan Allen, while he was a prisoner in Halifax, to the General Assembly, in behalf of himself and his fellow prisoners, from this State, which represented their distressed situation, and asked for relief.

The Assembly appointed a committee to examine the subject matter of the letters, &c., who reported, that Col. Allen, with about 18 others, natives or inhabitants of this State, had been captured in the service of the United States, near Montreal, in the province of Quebec, on the 25th day of September, 1775, by a party of armed men of the King of Great Britain, and appeared to have suffered great hardships during their captivity; and were then confined, in a suffering condition, in the common gaol in Halifax.

They also reported that Levi Allen, of Salisbury, a brother of Col. Allen, was about attempting to visit his brother, in Halifax, and advised the Assembly to send by said Levi Allen, £60 lawful money to the prisoners, as part payment of their wages due from the State, for their relief. Also to request the Governor to write to Gen. Washington, or the Continental Congress, (or both,) and strongly recommend, and earnestly request such seasonable and friendly interposition as would be most likely to procure a speedy exchange of the prisoners.

The following persons were taken prisoners with Col. Allen, and were with him in Halifax gaol, viz.: Roger Moore, of Salisbury; Peter Noble, (made his escape to Cape Fear, in Carolina;) Levi Barnum, of Norfolk; Barnabas Cane, Preston Denton, John Gray, of Sharon; Zachariah Brinsmade, of Woodbury; William Drinkwater, of New Milford; Jonathan Mahee, of Goshen; Levi Munson, of Wallingford; Samuel Lewis, William Gray, David Goss, of Sharon; Amos Green, Jonathan James Burque, Ithureil Flowers, of Hartford; Charles Stewart, of Stamford; Ebenezer Mack, of Norfolk; and Adonijah Maxum, of Sharon.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRISONERS OF WAR, &amp;c.

OCTOBER, 1776.

At the October session of the General Assembly of this State, in the year 1776, a committee was appointed, of which Matthew Griswold, Esq. was chairman, to devise the best method to dispose of prisoners of war, and persons suspected of being tories.

The committee reported, that all prisoners of war, who had been or should be sent to this State, should be kept together, at some suitable place or places within the State, so that the officers should not hold or have any intercourse or access with the non-commissioned officers or soldiers, or the inhabitants of the State; and be subject to the orders and regulations of the Governor and Council. That all such persons as were adjudged dangerous and removable, or were already removed as tories, should be all sent to some suitable place within the State, and there kept at their own expense, under proper guards, and to converse with no person except in the presence of the officer or officers of the guard. That the Governor of this State should notify the General Assemblies or Conventions of the neighboring States, that they should engage for the support of all tories they should send to this State to be secured, who were not able to support themselves. That the civil authority, selectmen, and committees of safety in the several towns in this State, should have power to confine within certain limits, or to remove all tories within their respective towns, as they should, upon enquiry and examination, judge to be inimical to the States, at the expense of such



persons. And that the Governor and Council should determine the place of confinement of all tories as should be so removed, and give orders for their government and support, guard, &c., necessary for their proper security and good behavior.

### PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS BY LORD HOWE.

EAGLE, (off New York,) November 15, 1776.

Lieut. Barker is to repair in the pilot tender, with a flag of truce, to the port of New London, in Connecticut, having charge to negotiate on the part of Lord Howe, with the principle inhabitants, or persons of the greatest authority in that colony, an exchange of prisoners; officers for officers in each class, and sailors for sailors, according to the enclosed list of American prisoners now on board the fleet. Mr. William Howland is permitted to attend Lieut. Barker, in view to forward the proposed exchange by such means as his knowledge of the country, and principal inhabitants, shall suggest. Mr. Howland is permitted to land from the tender, being by his parole engaged to return with Lieut. Barker, to receive the benefit of the general exchange, if it take place; or otherwise to remain under the circumstances of restraint, from which he is temporarily released for the purpose before mentioned. HOWE.

Lieut. Barker.

NOVEMBER 15, 1776.

We, your Honors' committee, appointed to consider of the application made by Lord Howe, for exchange of prisoners in the marine or naval department, now report it as our opinion, that such an application to this State, is altogether improper and inconsistent; and that the same ought to have been made to His Excellency General Washington in the first instance, with whom a negotiation of this sort, between him and Lord Howe, has already been proposed; and that his Honor the Governor, be desired to advise Gen. Washington of this singular application, and of the opinion of this Assembly thereon; and that he also signify to Lord Howe, or the commander of the flag, through whom the application was made, as he shall judge proper, the impropriety of said application to this State, assigning the pendency of the negotiation aforesaid.

Signed per order,

J. HUNTINGTON.

Lower House.

The above report is accepted and approved.

Attest,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

NOVEMBER 22, 1776.

It appears by a letter, dated New London, November 22d, 1776, from Jedediah Elderkin and Nathaniel Wales, Jr., to Gov. Trumbull, that upon the 22d day aforesaid, about 1 o'clock, a small schooner with a flag appeared in New London harbor, which greatly surprised the citizens. She came within about one mile of fort Trumbull, lay too, and lowered sails, with her flag up. A whale boat was sent to her, with armed men, to go on board of her, and soon returned with Capt. Howland. Several gentlemen from Groton and New London, with Messrs. Elderkin and Wales, examined Capt. Howland; he informed them that on the 1st day of November, 1776, he sailed from Bedford, in Massa-



chusotts, for Surinam, loaded with horses, candles, &c., and was taken soon after he sailed and carried to New York, where himself and his men were put on board of a ship which had 140 prisoners on board; in one berth, between decks, on two-thirds allowance, where the prisoners were very sickly, and many of them died. And that he used his influence to procure the flag of truce to go to Connecticut, to endeavor to effect an exchange of prisoners; that he left New York the Monday previous, and that the news of taking fort Washington arrived in New York on the day before; and he saw the prisoners come in, about 3,700 men, and stated that the garrison surrendered at the moment the enemy were about to take it by storm. Capt. Howland had with him a copy of his parole.

Another boat went to the flag from the fort, and brought a letter for the Governor of Connecticut. Several gentlemen were sent on board directed to request Lieut. Barker for a copy of his instructions from Lord Howe, which he readily gave, and politely remarked that he was distressed for the prisoners, that they were in want of clothing and much interested for an exchange. Lieut. Barker had a list of all the prisoners, and offered to give a copy, but stated that he came for the prisoners in the naval department alone. They queried the lieutenant why application had not been made to Gen. Washington for the exchange. He replied, that they did not know where to find Gen. Washington, as he changed his location so often.

Messrs. Elderkin and Wales stated, that they had been informed in New London, that a number of sea captains and other officers, who had been taken on board merchantmen and private ships of war, who were brought into Providence and places adjacent, by armed vessels, about sixty in number, had purchased a vessel at Providence, for the purpose of returning to Europe, some of whom were from New London, and were soon to sail. On the arrival of the flag at New London, Mr. Elderkin, &c., immediately informed Gov. Cook, of Rhode Island, of the condition of our prisoners, and sent to him, copies of Lieut. Barker's orders, Howland's parole, &c., and intimated to him the propriety of stopping the officers (who had been taken prisoners,) from sailing; that Capt. Howland was at New London, who was not permitted to view the forts, &c., or going to Hartford, as he was a stranger. The flag, with Lieut. Barker, and the men, &c., were kept under guard, to wait and learn the pleasure of Gov. Trumbull upon the subject.

The General Assembly appointed Col. Erastus Wolcott and Capt. John Deshon, to advise and determine on the expediency of entering into any negotiation with Lieut. Barker on the exchange of prisoners in the marine department; with power if they should judge best, to enquire after and obtain such marine prisoners as they should be enabled; and to agree on time, place, and manner of exchange, and to treat with said Barker as they should think prudent and best.

Lieut. Barker at the time he first sent Capt. Howland on his parole, on shore, sent by him a letter, (dated Pilot Tender, New London, November 22d, 1776,) directed to the Governor or principal inhabitants of New London; in which he stated, that he was empowered by Lord Howe to negotiate respecting the exchange of prisoners on board the fleet at New York, and requested an interview; and stated that he sent him on his parole for three days to accelerate the exchange. By Capt. Howland's parole, it appeared he was authorized to nego-

tiate for exchanges of prisoners either in Connecticut or Rhode Island, on board the fleet, for an equal number of British prisoners, officers for officers in each class, and sailors for sailors.

NOVEMBER, 1776.

On the 19th day of November, 1776, Abiaþhar Camp, of New Haven, who had been ordered to Eastbury, by the General Assembly, for confinement as a tory—applied to the Assembly by petition, in which he stated, that he was a professor and member of the church of England; and asked to be indulged in a free exercise of his religion in attending religious worship at Middletown, on Sabbath days, &c., which was the nearest church of England to said Eastbury. Which petition was negatived.

NOVEMBER 28, 1776.

Thaddens Betts, Esq., of Norwalk, as agent for the town, petitioned the General Assembly, in which he stated, that Norwalk was located in this State, on Long Island sound, nearly opposite to the town of Huntington, on said island, where the British had usually stationed one or more of their ships of war and tenders, and a garrison of soldiers on the shore; that the ships and tenders often cruised off Norwalk harbor, and had landed and plundered in the vicinity; that the town was thickly settled, which was the most exposed to the attacks of privateers of a moderate size; that provisions and implements of war were deposited to a large amount, owned by the United States, and the town destitute of cannon or fortifications to defend them, and therefore in imminent danger, and exposed to the depredations of the enemy; and prayed the General Assembly to loan to said town six cannon, or 6 pound field pieces, with a sufficient quantity of powder and balls for their defence. Which petition was granted.

NOVEMBER, 1776.

The Hon. Jabez Hamlin, as chairman of a committee, reported, that in order to prevent an actual scarcity of the necessities of life for the army and inhabitants of the State, that a further embargo should be forthwith laid, in addition to the one then in force. Which report was accepted and approved by the General Assembly.

#### NEW MILFORD COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

NOVEMBER 27, 1775.

At a meeting of the committee of inspection, of New Milford, November 27, 1775, twenty-five persons of the town came before the committee; expressed their regret at the unhappy divisions in this country; acknowledged they had said and done many things to strengthen the division on the part of those who opposed the liberties and rights of a free people, and made a full and frank acknowledgment to the committee; disapproved of several acts of Parliament, and confessed they had changed their opinions, and approved of the Congressional measures, as adopted by the Assembly of Connecticut; and were sensible their opposition to American freedom, arose too much from local circumstances, without being influenced by the principles upon which the controversy between the two countries depended: Therefore retracted all words and actions complained of; confessed their sorrow and regret, and prayed that they should be overlooked; and declared their bosoms warm with friendly sentiments to the rights

and privileges of the Americans; declared their disbelief in the declaratory act of Parliament, that Britain had a right to bind the colonies in all cases; that there could not be a legal taxation, without representation, or a constitutional trial for life without a jury of the vicinago, according to Magna Charta; shewed their willingness to oppose all such demands, and prayed they should no longer be considered enemies of their country, &c. &c.

The committee accepted of their confessions, and restored the twenty-five persons to the usual favors of their fellow men. Which facts were signed by each; examined by Daniel Everett, clerk of the committee, and published in the Connecticut Courant.

[NOTE.—It was a common occurrence for many of those who were suspected of being tories, to appear before the committee of inspection in their towns, to exonerate their characters from the imputation; and when satisfaction was not made to the committee, the offender was often published in the Connecticut Courant, and disarmed, if not committed to prison.]

#### COL. ALLEN'S RECEPTION IN IRELAND.

JANUARY, 1776.

I here insert the following extract of a letter from the city of Cork, in Ireland, when Col. Allen was on his way to England, a prisoner of war from Quebec.

“The following occurrence must give satisfaction to the friends of suffering America: When Col. Ethan Allen, with about 90 other prisoners, arrived at Cork, in the *Solebay*, two gentlemen went on board to enquire into their situation, and to assure them of the disposition of several gentlemen in the city, (Cork) to alleviate their distress. Col. Allen was so affected with this instance of unexpected generosity, that the expression of his gratitude could hardly find utterance. His treatment on board the *Solebay*, was far different from the barbarous and cruel usage he experienced in his passage from Quebec, being then handcuffed and ironed in the most dreary part of the vessel, and basely insulted with cruel and unmanly reflections, by some of the officers of the ship, whom he challenged in Cornwall, without obtaining satisfaction.

“A subscription was begun among some friends of the cause of liberty, and in a single day, near 50 guineas were collected to purchase clothes for his men, and necessaries for himself; and if liberty can be got of Capt. Williams, to put live stock on board, I can assure you, Col. Allen will be exceedingly well provided. We this day sent a hamper of wine, sugar, fruit, chocolate, &c., on board, for his immediate use; and to-morrow intend to prepare the sandry articles, of which he sent a list.

“I inclose you a rough copy of his answer to our letter to him. Should he have permission to come on shore, he will be entertained by some of the first gentlemen of this city. I have not been refused by a single person on the subscription.”

[Copy of Col. Allen's note in answer.]

“Gentlemen, I received your generous present this day with a joyful heart. Thanks to God, there are still the feelings of humanity in the worthy citizens of Cork, towards those of your bone and flesh, who, through misfortune from the present broils in the Empire, are needy prisoners.”

Dated Cove, January 24, 1776.

NOVEMBER, 1776.

On the 5th day of November, 1776, R. Fairchild, J. Brooks, and D. Judson, of Stratford, stated to the General Assembly, by their memorial, That the town of Stratford was greatly exposed in its location, to the British troops ; that Long Island, then in the possession of the enemy, was at a distance of about 20 miles, separated from the main land by the sound ; that a long point of land extended from the meeting-house into the sound about 4 miles, which afforded a safe and convenient landing place for the enemy from Long Island, as well as a safe place for tories to escape daily, undiscovered, and inform the British on the island, of the situation of the town and State. Also, that they had great fear at that time, particularly on account of a late expedition from the main to the island, as Stratford was opposite to Broekhaven or Sautucket, where the Rhode Island regiment landed and brought away some tories ; and feared their enemies from said island would soon attempt to land in said town, and make depredations, unless a guard should be posted at said point of land ; and stated that their troop of horse had gone into the service, and they were deprived, by death and sickness, of the aid of one-half of the militia, who had marched to New York in August previous ; and prayed for a guard of 20 men, under a proper officer, to be stationed at Stratford.

JANUARY 11, 1777.

Governor Trumbull, in a letter to the commissioned officers on board the brig Defence, dated Middletown, January 11th, 1777, remarked, that the Governor and Council had been informed that the enemy were cutting and loading wood on Shelter Island, and that armed vessels might act in concert safely against them and annoy the plunderers. The Governor directed them to consult the officers of the armed vessels in New London, and if they should judge it prudent, and could attack them with success, to act with them, if they thought fit, or give their attention immediately to promote the cruise.

MEMORIAL OF THE INHABITANTS OF NEWFIELD,  
(NOW BRIDGEPORT.)

JANUARY 14, 1777.

The memorial of the people living near Newfield harbor, in the township of Stratford, in Fairfield county, humbly sheweth : That Newfield harbor is distant from Stratford between three and four miles, and there are a few inhabitants settled near the water ; and this harbor is convenient for, and almost the whole of the navigation of the town is carried on from this harbor, and though there has been occasion enough given by our tory enemies, yet no effectual measures have been taken to secure this harbor, although there has within a few months past been taken and carried away out of this harbor ; in the night season, nine vessels and boats by our tory enemies from among ourselves, who have from time to time gone off to the enemy ; the last was a sloop of about 20 tons, taken off and carried away in the night to the enemy, about eight days ago, by 44 tories ; and there is great reason to believe that Mr. Matthews, mayor of New York, and several other prisoners, have made their escape from this harbor, in some of the boats and vessels that have been taken away, together with our tory enemies ; and there are so many persons, living but a little way from this harbor, that are unfriendly to their country ; that these enemies of their country, can

always be secreted until a favorable night arrives for them to steal a vessel and go off; and there is no possible way to prevent further mischief of this kind, but by a constant guard being kept at the harbor; for unless this is done, we have reason to believe, that what has been done by the tories, is but the beginning of the mischiefs that are to be apprehended from these deserters of their country's cause. The friends of the deserters will sometimes threaten, that those that have gone off in this way, will soon return in circumstances to make themselves respected and feared, and that it will not be long before new laws will be established here, that will prevent people being oppressed, &c.

This harbor has always been the place for Newtown, so famous for tories, to resort to, in all their trade and traffic, and it is now the capital place of resort for all our tory enemies to go out; and we have great reason to believe, that great numbers more are now watching another convenient opportunity to get out, and go off with Maj. French, who is lurking about, not far off, we have reason to believe; and there are ships every day hovering about, and at night, oftentimes come to within a few miles of this harbor; and we have reason to believe, that as soon as the weather moderates, those tories, with the aid of our other enemies, will return again into this harbor, and destroy the lives and properties of the friends of our own government; and we are humbly of opinion, that the safety of the people requires that there should be a guard of 25 men constantly stationed at this harbor, with two small cannon mounted on travelling carriages, to protect the people and harbor; and earnestly entreat your Honor and Council, (or Assembly if sitting) will be pleased to give orders for it.

For the particular state of facts, we beg leave to refer your Honor to the bearers, Messrs. David and Aaron Hawley, Abraham Hubbell, and William Worden, who live at and near the harbor. We humbly pray your Honor's attention to these matters, for they are important; and we as in duty bound shall ever pray. Dated in Stratford, this 14th day of January, A. D. 1777.

(Signed)

Ezra Hawley, Richard Hubbell, Jr., Ephraim Hawley, Jr., William Hawley, Timothy Wheeler, Zachariah Sanford, Jabez Beach, Gilbert McKinsy, David Waklee, Elnathan Edwards, Ephraim Hawley, Joseph Strong, James Knap, Hezekiah Hubbell, (one of the committee of inspection,) Benjamin Lacy, John Nichols, Gideon Hubbell, Josiah Treadwell, John Hubbell, Benjamin Hubbell, Benjamin Wheeler, Samuel Waklee, Stephen Starlin, Jabez Sommers, Elnathan Sommers, Abel Lewis, Samuel Cable, Elnathan Sherman, Ebenezer Sherman, Squire Beardslee, Nathan Seeley, John Hall, Walter Hubbell, Samuel Odell, Abel Waklee, Lewis Sturges, Waliret Hawley, Elijah Hawley, Samuel Hawley, William Hubbell, Abijah Sherman, Thaddeus Bennett, Jr., David Sherman, Lemuel Treadwell, Jr., Ebenezer Gregory, Andrew Beardslee, Josiah Lacy, N. Peet Jackson, John Odell, Ezra Winton, Samuel Wordin, William Wordin, Zachariah Treadwell, David Treadwell, Joseph Knap, Thomas Hawley, Jedediah Wells.—The prayer of the foregoing memorial was granted.

On the 19th of May, Gov. Skeen, a prisoner of war, taken at Ticonderoga, and who had been for some time in Hartford, was committed to gaol by the committee of prisoners, for refusing to sign a parole.

By a pay roll of officers and men who belonged to the Oliver Cromwell, made by Capt. Harding, it appears, he paid his men £2,317 ; 14.

FEBRUARY, 1777.

By a return of officers, seamen, and marines belonging on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, February 24th, 1777, it appears there were of officers and seamen present, 81 ; in gaol, 1 ; deserted, 39 ; discharged, 16 ; absent without leave, 13 ; murdered, 1 ; sick, 1—total, 152. Officers and marines present, 21 ; deserted, 7 ; discharged, 14 ; absent without leave, 5 ; on furlough, 20 ; drowned, 1 ; sick, 1—total, 69. Boys present, 7 ; deserted, 2 ; on furlough, 3—total, 12.

## CAPT. COIT'S LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

MARCH 17, 1777.

RESPECTED SIR,—By Capt. Roberts I am informed that Lieut. Melally is discharged from the *Oliver Cromwell* ; and he desired me as from your Honors to nominate some one in his place. Your Honor and your Honorable Council, will be pleased to hear me represent some matters which, perhaps, may elucidate the situation of the ship ; with all the earnestness that I was capable of, engaged a sufficient number of good men, and was told that every other matter should be ready to my hand. Since, many months ago, every means that human mind can invent, has been used to persuade my crew to leave the ship, and so far have succeeded against me, as to carry away at least, 100 good seamen. By the dismissal of Melally, it makes a vast confusion on board. Party will be party ; men who are fond of excusing themselves, just on the point of doing their duty, require great exertions. It is unknown to me what may be called on hereafter.

SIR,—It would please me to know what men are discharged, and for what reasons. Many discharge themselves, to the loss of the State, by taking their own discharge, when they got the least advantage with respect to pay, which at times it is not possible to avoid. My best compliments wait on your Honor and Council, and if it may be suffered that we may go to sea, do not doubt but we shall do well. It is my opinion that it will not be for the best at present to appoint any other officers, we can go to the best advantage without.

DEAR SIR,—Suffer not the vile representations of those who do not wish well to our sincere cause, to prejudice your mind against my behavior ; for I am vexed, if I know my own heart—I think it an honest one—and while life remains, and these times last, it is at my country's service.

BUT please your Honor,—Let me say that there is one matter which gives me great concern, and I beg your Honor to consider the vast expense the continent is at for their frigates ; recollect the great expense of the forces stationed at New London ; see what good they have done, and in comparison, take a serious view of my command, and I am sure there will be a striking contrast to the advantage of this ship. I want but bread, wood, and rum, to complete me for a voyage ; but there is a variety of changes in my men, they will run away, and I have no law to regulate my conduct by, the only means is my own discretion, and that, by some, is thought imprudent ; but I will do for the best. Again, among the variety of requests, your Honor and Council will note that all men in service, whose only means are their hands, for the support of themselves and families, and being, generally speaking, in real necessity for their support ; their importunity is so great to me, that my humanity, what little I have, is affected ; I therefore must desire your Honor and Council, to give me an order on the Treasury to receive £1,000, to be received by Lieut. Smith, on account

of the ship ; there is more due, but that will, I believe, fully answer, and it is impossible to do without, as my men must have it ; and I hope that if I do not account for it properly, my estate will pay it. I do assure your Honor, it is not for my own occasions, but for the good of the country.

Several ships are in the offing ; one is in as a flag. I do not imagine any danger to the town at present. I could wish that your Honor would give me some particular directions about the roads to smack craft, that pass in and out of this port.

I am, with respect,

your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM COIT.

New London, March 17th, 1777.

N. B. Pray let me know at what per month I must settle with Lieut. Melally.

MARCH 19, 1777.

Capt. William Coit, by a letter dated March 19th, 1777, at New London, informed Gov. Trumbull, that he should have presented his account for adjustment, had not the most eminent, urgent occasion prevented ; that great threatening had been sent to him by the last flag ; that five frigates had been in absolute order to blockade New London harbor, on account of the Oliver Cromwell, and talked hard, for being so long on that duty, and declare they will cut her out, and even more. He also stated, that there was then in the offing, by the best intelligence, thirty-six ships, within four leagues of his ship, and had sent repeated threats, and that his ship was considered as the greatest defence there was on that shore, as few of the militia were there, and that New London was never in greater danger. He assured the Governor that all his prudence would be used to keep his corps together ; that \$40 had been bid for any of his smallest men to quit the service of the ship and country. He stated, that his heart, his life, his every faculty of mind, was devoted to the honest service of his country.

MARCH 26, 1777.

By a letter, dated on board the Oliver Cromwell, March 26, 1777, at New London, from Capt. Coit, to Gov. Trumbull, it appears Capt. Coit had been on business to see the Governor, and on his return, he found that on the day of the marriage of Capt. Hinman, the officers, to celebrate the wedding, concluded to salute the bride and groom from the ship ; when the gun was loaded, a mischievous boy, by the advice of his comrades, (unknown to the officers,) put a ball into the gun ; and the ship lay broadside to New London, and the gun pointed to the lower part of the town. Instead of a ball, the lad put in a hand grenade, by mistake, which when discharged, whistled, by the account, " the like was never known," and though no damage was done, it passed near several houses and persons. When Capt. Coit returned, he found the two offenders in irons ; and wished the Governor to give his directions in the affair ; also wished to know whether the continental laws should be his guide.

APRIL, 1777.

By a letter dated New London, April 10th, 1777, from Capt. Coit to Gov. Trumbull, it appears that he had much confusion with his men of the Cromwell, by attempts made upon them by recruiters, by all methods to seduce his



men away, as their time was nearly expired, and the demand for seamen so great, that all methods were resorted to, to decoy them, with a variety of reports propagated as to the ship; that he had his hands full, to keep the peace, and order on board. From the great demand there was for men, he wished for liberty to ship men for any service the ship was intended for, and to inform them of the wages, &c., to be allowed, alleging that men could not be procured for less than the continental conditions, and was anxious to get his men; and stated that he had many good men, *though disappointed*, and a fine corps of under officers, many of whom did not wish to leave the ship, and with good encouragement, he thought he could soon get as good a crew, as had been seduced from the ship, by means he considered truly devilish; that a better crew never belonged to any ship than the Cromwell; requested an officer appointed in Melally's place, until the next week, unless he should receive orders to sail; in such case, he remarked, he then had 70 good seamen waiting for the ship at Wood's Hole. He stated as news, that there were eight ships in Gardner's Bay, beside the five frigates then off, which were supposed to be after wood and provisions.

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APRIL, 1777.

A letter from Gov. Trumbull to Capt. Coit, dated Lebanon, April 11th, 1777, which directed Capt. Coit to make up his account and observe the time of dismissal, desertion, and death of such as had left the ship in either way. The Governor and Council regretted that it had been out of their power to crowd the ship on a cruise, though it had been embarrassed by many insurmountable causes; and that therefore they had appointed Seth Harding to be captain in the place of Capt. Coit, with a proper choir of officers, for a term to come, and dismissed Capt. Coit and his officers and men after the 14th day of April, 1777, and directed Capt. Coit not to fail to make up his account for a full settlement, for all time passed, to the time of dismissal, by the 1st of May, 1777.

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APRIL, 1777.

In a letter from Gen. Washington to Gov. Trumbull, dated Morristown, April 7th, 1777, he stated, that the pay abstract of the 10th regiment of Connecticut militia, from October to Jan. 1776—7, had been presented for payment to him. The unreasonable *disproportion of officers* induced him to decline giving orders for the payment; and requested Gov. Trumbull to adopt some mode by which the public treasury might be eased of such extraordinary demands; and stated that such impositions would in future be provided for by Congress, but doubted how he could remedy such cases as had happened; but remarked that nothing should pass his hands that could be construed into the slightest approbation of such impositions; and stated that if Col. Sheldon should want a further supply of money to finish equipping his regiment, he desired the Governor to advance it.

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#### SCHOONER ANNA.

APRIL, 1777.

A letter from Mr. Elliot to Gov. Trumbull, dated Boston, April 14th, 1777, informed him of the arrival of the schooner Anna, on Saturday preceding, captured by Capt. Smedley, on the 16th of March, in latitude 16, longitude 48, bound from Bristol, in England, to Dominico. (Mr. Lewis, the prize master, was the bearer of the letter and invoice of the cargo to the Governor.) The

cargo consisted of articles of an advanced price in Boston, particularly flour and painters' colors, and the other articles much needed. Also gave the information that he should libel said schooner in behalf of those concerned, the State as owner, the captain, officers, &c., on board. Capt. Smedley four days before taking this prize, fell in with and captured a large barque, from Liverpool, in England, bound to Pensacola, the particulars of which, and his engagement with two large ships, Mr. Lewis was requested to give to the Governor in person. As the Anna made no opposition, according to custom, the men were entitled to their wages. The barque had arrived at Dartmouth, and he informed the Governor, that as soon as he had finished libelling the Anna, he would take proper measures as to the barque, and have her cargo taken out and secured in some of the back towns, as the people of Boston considered Dartmouth as more exposed than any place in the State.

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APRIL, 1777.

Gov. Trumbull's answer, dated Lebanon, April 17, 1777, in which he approved of the procedure of Mr. Elliot as to the prizes; and sent him a schedule of such articles as he wished reserved for particular use, and directed him to dispose of the remainder of the cargo to the best advantage; to pay wages to such prisoners as had conducted well; directed him to proceed to Dartmouth and secure the cargo of the barque. Also stated that Capt. Harding had no concern in the brig Defence, the (then) present cruise; that she was under the command of Capt. Smedley, and that Capt. Harding was appointed to the command of the ship Oliver Cromwell, in the harbor of New London, preparing for sea.

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APRIL, 1777.

A letter from Samuel Elliot, Jr., to Gov. Trumbull, dated April 25, 1777, informed of the arrival of the Snow Swift in Boston harbor, which was the last capture of four, made by the Defence, (Capt. Smedley); another prize had been taken by Capt. Smedley, and sent into Plymouth, which Mr. Elliot intended should have been sent into Boston, as there was no danger at the time from the British, but she had run on shore so high up, that she could not be got off, only by unloading, and in this way, they got her off the bar, and the sloop proceeded to Boston. The invoices of the Snow Swift and the brig, were forwarded, with a part of the cargo of the Grog. The cargo of the Snow Swift was much the same as that of the brigs. Capt. Smedley wrote from Dartmouth, he had requested leave to come into Boston and refit the Defence; and Mr. Elliot, at the date above, sent him an express, to inform him of two frigates then being in Boston Bay.

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APRIL, 1777.

By a letter, dated Lebanon, April 29, 1777, from Gov. Trumbull to Mr. Elliot, at Boston, he acknowledged his letter of the 25th, which informed him of the arrival of Capt. Smedley's last prizes. He also informed him, that he had no desire to supersede his agency; and wished him to give Capt. Smedley all the assistance in his power, as the Defence would have to be refitted and sent to sea with all expedition. He remarked that the enemy had made a direct attack on Connecticut; and that it was reported, that the enemy intended ravaging our

coast, and in some measure, make this State the theatre of war. He therefore thought it a prudent step, to reserve all provisions of every kind, taken in the four prizes, for the use of this State; as it was highly probable it might be wanted, not only for our militia on sudden marches, but to minister to the relief of our inhabitants, who should be forced from home; and therefore directed Mr. Elliot to secure the whole of the provisions brought in all the prizes, until further orders, excepting so much as should be needed to fit the brig for a new cruise, and an order to deliver Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., provisions for his privateer, at Dartmouth; and directed him to consider this letter as countermanding all former orders respecting provisions in said prizes, except such as are above mentioned. The Governor also directed Mr. Elliot to take care of the provisions, and place them in such a situation as they should be secure against any sudden invasion of the enemy, at his discretion. The Governor returned the invoices to Mr. Elliot.

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APRIL, 1777.

A letter from Capt. Samuel Smedley to Gov. Trumbull, dated April 19, 1777, at Bedford, in Dartmouth, informed the Governor of the arrival of the brig Defence at said Bedford, on the 18th day of said April, though the brig was in a very bad state when he sailed, with regard to men, yet he had taken four prizes and manned them, viz.: a barque from Liverpool and Waterford, bound to Jamaica, laden with provisions, iron work, nails, &c.; a brig from Bristol, England, bound to Jamaica, laden with flour, bread, paints and oil, bottle beer, cider, &c., which had arrived, the latter at Boston—the barque mounted ten iron guns; another brig from Glasgow, bound to Antigua, laden with beef, butter, &c.; the Snow Swift from Dublin, with beef, butter, &c.; and required of the Governor directions how to dispose of the brig, as he had been informed that the harbor at New London was as well lined with the ships of the enemy, as it was when he sailed out, and found so much difficulty in sailing by them, in consequence of which, Mr. Shaw had hauled up his privateer into the port at Bedford. Capt. Smedley advised the Governor to lengthen, and put a quarter deck on the brig, and put her in a condition to fight, which she then was not, and was considered by Capt. Smedley, the most uncomfortable vessel he ever sailed; he stated she might be repaired at Boston, in safety, very soon; he stated the time of enlistment of the men was out the March previous, which had made some difficulty, and many ran away before he sailed, and he expected the remainder would do the same, as their time would expire within 12 days; the men expected to go into the Vineyard, and had planned to go home; so that Capt. Smedley saw he could not make a cruise, unless he put to sea with what men he had, which he did, and far exceeded his expectations.

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APRIL 20, 1777.

By a letter from Capt. Smedley to Governor Trumbull, dated ship Defence, at sea, April 20, 1777: It appears, that on Capt. Smedley's weighing anchor in Boston, he discovered a man on board his ship who was infected with the small pox, and to prevent its spreading, he sent him on shore in the pilot boat; but to his sorrow and surprise, on the 13th day's sail from Boston, six of his men broke out with the disorder, and the chief carpenter, and a petty officer, who belonged at Cape Cod, died. After he held a council with his officers, and found

about 50 of his men were exposed, he ordered them inoculated, which was done. Though they were taken down at a time when they were the most needed, for on the 13th of March, at night, he brought too a ship from France, bound to the Cape, who gave an account to Capt. Smedley of their parting that day with two large ships bound from Bristol to Jamaica, which mounted 20 and 18 guns. He immediately pursued them, and the next morning discovered them, and went along side of them and had a warm contest, which lasted three glasses, when they struck their colors. Capt. Parker engaged the most warlike ship, and to his honor be it spoken, behaved in such a manner as would have done credit to the greatest admiral in Europe. He also informed the Governor, that since their acquaintance, and in the distressed situation of Capt. Smedley, they had rendered him much assistance. The warm reception gave Capt. Smedley, he escaped with less damage than he expected, though the hull and rigging of the Defence were much damaged, but two men were wounded, who were doing well; and he hoped both prizes would arrive safe. He stated that his ship had had been leaky the whole voyage, and that he should be obliged to go into some port soon, to repair. The ships taken were the Admiral Keppel, of eighteen 6 pound guns, with 47 men; and the Cyrus, of sixteen guns, both letters-of-marque.

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APRIL 20, 1777.

A letter from Capt. Parker to Governor Trumbull, (dated Oliver Cromwell, April 20, 1777, latitude 20, longitude 50,) stated, that Lieut. Pease, of the ship Defence, was sent in the ship Cyrus, as prize master, and would give the account of the taking of the Keppel and Cyrus, and of the contents of their cargoes. He stated he had wrote more fully by Lieut. Tillinghast, commander of the Keppel, of the loss sustained in men. Capt. Parker also stated his ship had received some damage in her hull and rigging, and had received four shots between wind and water through the side, several shrouds shot in twain, together with braces, bowling, and other smaller ropes and sails a little tattered. The Governor gave an order to Capt. Smedley to take the command of the brig Defence, and proceed on a cruise of three months, as Capt. Harding's ill-health prevented his going to sea. Capt Smedley informed the Governor that the brig Defence was ready for sea; that she only wanted more men, as she then had but 40 who belonged to the brig, and few of them seamen, and as the prospect of getting men in New London was poor, and as he could obtain a complement of them at the Vineyard soon, he should sail without any detention on that account. Capt. Smedley requested the Governor to appoint another commissioned officer on board, as there were but two, and had formerly been four, and recommended Capt. Angel, of New London, as he was a sober, steady, worthy man, and had been master of vessels out of New London twelve years, and a first-rate seaman; and in case a prize should be taken, Capt. Angel being acquainted with all the coasts, would be able to take such prize into port. Capt. Smedley wished the Governor to inform him whether Capt. Harding, on shore, was to draw a share of prizes taken by him, &c., as appears by a letter from Capt. Smedley to the Governor, dated New London, February, 1777.

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APRIL 23, 1777.

Gen. Washington, by letter, dated April 23d, 1777, in answer to a letter from Gen. Parsons, stated, that the prisoners from New York, and the case of the

representatives of those who died during their captivity, deserved attention, though it would be difficult to adopt a line of conduct in that instance, by which equal justice could be done them and the public ; and sincerely desired they could be paid, and thought the better method was for the State to take up the matter, and appoint one or two members of the Legislature to receive and pay their claims ; and in all cases where the original claimant was alive, to admit none but such as had an affidavit annexed, with the time when and where captured, and when released ; to what company and regiment they belonged, and that they had received no pay or satisfaction from the United States, while in captivity. And in like manner, if claims made by representatives of soldiers who died in captivity, that they should make oath when and where their said soldiers were taken ; the company and regiment to which they belonged ; the time of their death, and had received no pay that became due between their capture and death ; and no claims for rations to be admitted. The General Assembly appointed Gen. Wadsworth, Mr. Wales, Maj. Phelps, Maj. Hillhouse, and Col. Lee, to take said facts into consideration ; and also Col. Hart's memorial, and the case of the prisoners returned from New York, and those in captivity, with their losses, sufferings, and what should be done for them, and report make to said Assembly.

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APRIL, 1777.

A letter was received, dated Long Island, April 30, 1777, signed by Ethan Allen, Esq., and directed to the General Assembly or Committee of War, of this State ; in which he stated, that he did not distrust the wisdom of the country, that an exchange of prisoners had not taken place, and that those who had the management of the affair, undoubtedly had their political reasons for the delay ; that the mode of existence as a prisoner, though it was irksome, was not deplorable, by reason of hope ; and the officers on parole, seemed to him, as mere ciphers, exempted from danger and honor ; and though man was never easy, that it was painful to a generous and enterprising mind, to be debarred in sharing the glories that would be revealed during the campaign. He stated, that Gen. Washington had written to Gen. Howe upon the subject of his exchange, and had styled him colonel, instead of lieutenant colonel ; he also acknowledged the receipt of £35, which he received by his brother Levi Allen ; in which letter he urges his exchange as a prisoner of war.

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#### LETTER TO THE AUTHOR.

The following letter is from Joseph Hill, Esq., to the author of this work.

In answer to your enquiries, according to the best information I have been able to obtain, the enemy, during the revolutionary war, did not land in Saybrook to do much damage ; they drove several small vessels ashore, and some were set on fire. They landed on Duck Island, which is opposite Westbrook, and burnt the buildings ; I believe it was in 1781. A guard, consisting of about 20, commanded by a lieutenant, was kept in Saybrook fort ; at night one of the whale boats was sent out of the mouth of the river to reconnoitre, and did not return until they could see day light, that the coast was clear. The first company, which was enlisted in the spring of 1775, and soon after marched to near Boston, was commanded by John Ely, captain ; Abraham Waterhouse, 1st lieutenant ; Elisha Lee, of Lyme, 2d lieutenant ; Dan Platts, ensign ; some of said company belonged

to Lyme. The uniform of said company was, hats bound with yellow, many of them used white tow cloth, colored with peach-tree bark. In the fore part of the summer, another company was raised in Saybrook, and marched for the camp near Boston. I believe said company was commanded by Capt. Martin Kirtland. During the whole of the war, (a large number from said town were in the service;) the uniform of the company was a red knott on one shoulder.

The following persons were taken in the armed ship *Blaze Castle*, and carried to Halifax: Aaron Platts, William Carter, Abisha Chapman, Abner Stannard, Jr., Josiah Wolcott, Jeremiah Lay, Daniel Jones, and John Stannard, Jr.,—all died but D. Jones and J. Stanard, Jr., and all were from Saybrook.

Those killed at Groton fort, belonging to Saybrook, were—John Whittlesey, Stephen Whittlesey, William Comstock, Daniel Williams, Jonathan Butler, and several wounded.

It is well known that the American Turtle was invented and built in Saybrook, by David Bushnell, Esq. He died, at an advanced age, in the State of Georgia, a few years since, after acquiring a handsome property, which was brought on by his friend and delivered to the children of his deceased brother Ezra, together with some curious machinery, partly built, which had been viewed by several gentlemen, none of whom, I believe, have been able to determine what it would have been, if it had been completed.

I find almost all the aged people are gone, and those living cannot recollect dates, &c.

I am, dear Sir,

yours respectfully,

JOSEPH HILL.

Essex, June 29, 1841.

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Mr. Eliphalet Dyer, chairman of a committee of the General Assembly, reported, that the sending deserters to us, in flags of truce, as stated in Gen. Silliman's letter, ought to be considered as an insult to this State, if they had received Gen. Silliman's warning, sent by their flag. Said committee also reported against suffering the families of deserted tories, within this State, to go to said deserters, within the enemy's lines, except where our inhabitants had been taken, not under arms, by the enemy, and carried off, and even in that case, to take no property, except necessary clothing; and no person able to bear arms, should be permitted to go.

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#### SMALL POX IN STRATFIELD.

MAY 19, 1777.

Timothy Wheeler and 12 other persons of Stratfield society, informed the Legislature, that notwithstanding all the measures of Gen. Silliman and the petitioners, to prevent the spread of the small pox, that it had already affected every part of the parish; that many had inoculated, and remained in their own houses, situated on the public highways, which exposed the whole community; that numbers of persons daily went into the hospital, opposite the guard at Newfield harbor, only about 80 rods distant from the guard; that two of the guard had taken the disease, and the guard would not remain, thus exposed, as it was then considered almost dangerous for the inhabitants to go out of their houses; that they had repeatedly applied to the authority and selectmen of Stratford, to act on the subject; but that they had used no effectual measures to

prevent the spreading of the distemper, but had permitted persons from other towns to inoculate and have the disease in said Stratford ; so that the people in Stratfield were exposed, not only to the small pox, but to the depredations of the enemy ; and prayed for relief in some way.

Robert Ross and 21 other persons, again in said May, from Stratfield, applied to the Assembly, to direct that all such as had inoculated for the small pox, in the town of Stratford, in violation of law, should be prosecuted, and the law itself revised, or to repeal the act, and form a new one, allowing a pest house in each county or town, with a house to clean up in, and remain in a few days after cleansing to prevent exposing the people and their families ; and order the selectmen to place a sufficient guard of sober, faithful men, to carry every regulation strictly into effect, in every place where inoculation should be permitted, &c. They stated, that great quarrels had arisen on this subject, and affairs grew worse and worse, and the infection daily increased, and nothing had been done for months, to prevent it ; and the people were enraged and declared they would burn the houses infected, and shoot all the infected persons they should meet, to prevent which an effectual and immediate remedy was required ; and prayed the Assembly to publish the act in every part of the State, that it should be perfectly known and understood by all the people.

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MAY, 1776.

Wolcott Hawley, a constable of Stratford, informed the General Assembly, (for their direction,) that the frequent breaches of the statute, governing the people in inoculating for the small pox, had become alarming ; that it had been spread in Stratford, in defiance of law, and men in authority, especially by the tories ; the grand jurors and constables had met frequently, though with difficulty ; two of the justices of the peace of said town had been inoculated, who could not be tried for the offence, as the justices in the adjoining towns refused to act in the matter out of their own towns, and those justices who had not had the small pox, feared to try them, though one of them had agreed to prosecute ; the sheriff of the county had been inoculated, and two constables of Stratford, had been inoculators, and the other constables of the town feared to serve the writs on such offenders. He stated that soon after the enactment of the law, he complained of a certain doctor, for inoculating, and the court put him under a bond of £500, to offend no more ; though he was not formally tried, and that he still transgressed the law ; and that the timid and disaffected in the town, as appeared, intended to give it an universal spread ; and those appointed to execute the law, prove to be its violators, as two of the judges of the county of Fairfield had been inoculated, beside the chief judge ; and under these circumstances, he being under oath to enquire and present all breaches of the law, therefore prayed the Assembly for advice and direction on the subject.

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•      **LETTER FROM GEN. SILLIMAN TO GOV. TRUMBULL.**

MAY 20, 1777.

Gen. Silliman wrote a letter to Gov. Trumbull, dated Fairfield, May 20, 1777, and informed him that a flag of truce had arrived at Norwalk, from Long Island, for the purpose of conveying to said island several tory families, the heads of which had deserted and joined the enemy ; that the tories had grown bold ; that the week before this date, a flag was at Stamford, on board of which was a deserter to the British ; that Gen. Silliman in giving a permit to said flag to sail, inserted a warning against sending again in a flag any deserters, on



penalty of their being detained and tried for their lives as deserters; that the British had again sent a flag with two American deserters on board, and wished for directions whether to detain them and have them tried; that Squire Hawley informed Gen. Silliman, that he had seen the Governor at Hartford, and asked of him permission to carry in his flag some women and children of some of the Connecticut Tories that were with the enemy, which the Governor declined, as the matter was before the Assembly. He stated, that only 18 privates had arrived in Fairfield, of all that had been detached from two regiments, and ordered to Fairfield, on the 6th of May. The general expressed his fear, that many would not come, as he had been informed that great numbers had paid their fines, which fine was so trifling, it did not answer the design of the General Assembly; and some had refused either to pay their fines or march. The general also remarked, that if the want of soldiers did not oblige him to abandon the coast of the enemy, he much feared the small pox, which was then raging there 'would, as it was on every side of his troops, and he knew not what to do; and stated that 44 persons were inoculated, and that in Stratford and Stratfield, great numbers were daily inoculating for the small pox, and going into houses near the sea shore—a measure, that the enemy themselves could not have better planned to strip the sea coast of its guards; and desired that something effectual should be done, or that the coast would be forsaken by all persons who were not sick with, or inoculated for the small pox; and prayed that the Assembly should be put on some measures to prevent the evil.

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MAY 2, 1777.

By a letter, sent by Col. Hart, dated New York, May 2, 1777, directed to Squire Sanford, and signed by James Rogers, it appears that the following persons, who were taken prisoners in the expedition at Danbury, and carried to New York, were Daniel Chapman, Jabez Frost, Daniel Sanford, Timothy Parsons, David Fairchild, Daniel Meeker, Russel Bartlet, James Rogers, Oliver Sanford, Nathaniel Squire, Ezekiel Fairchild, Stephen Betts, Jonas Platt, and Thomas Couch, of Redding; John Bartram, Matthew Benedict, Benjamin Sperry, John Porter, Jonathan Starr, William Roberts, Jacob Gray, Aaron Gray Knap, of Danbury; Benjamin Meeker, John Olmsted, John Dimon, Benjamin Banks, David Burr, Peter Blackman, Ephraim Burr, Nathan Beers, Caleb Disbrow, Levi Disbrow, and Peter Williams, of the town of Fairfield; Israel Chapman, of Salem; James Crawford and Newton Crawford, of Pound Ridge; Simeon Minor, of Woodbury; Benjamin Keeler, of Wilton; John Wright, of Norwich; Job Slocum, of Oblong; James and Benjamin Northrop and John Smith, of Ridgefield; in whose behalf Mr. Rogers wrote the letter, in which they requested their friends in Connecticut, to send to them by Col. Hart, all the hard money they could collect, who had agreed to advertise when he should return to New York, and where the money should be left for said prisoners; each man's money to be put up by itself with his name on it.

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MAY, 1777.

Ruth Peck, the widow of Jesse Peck, (then) late of Danbury, stated to the General Assembly, that her husband, with three sons, in the spring of 1776, enlisted in the service of the State, and all went through the fatigue of the campaign; two of the sons were taken prisoners at fort Washington, and suffered the hardships of captivity in New York; one son had the small pox in

the worst manner possible, in the most scarce time of gold-the (then) last winter at New York, who started for home, and froze his feet, so that he became a cripple; another son was sent home by the British about the 1st of January, 1777, infected with the small pox, of which he soon died, after his arrival; the husband who had arrived home a short time previous to his son, took the disease, and also died after a long confinement; one other son also took said disease, who by the goodness of God, recovered; whereby said Ruth was grievously afflicted, and the town of Danbury expended the sum of £26:12:6 in their sickness, and held a claim upon the small estate her husband had left for the payment of it, and if paid by her, would leave her with a family of small children, and needy indeed; and prayed the Assembly to pay the sum aforesaid.

The following marines who belonged to the ship Oliver Cromwell, were returned as deserters, viz.: Gurdon Burnham, William Allen, William Powell, John Brownly, John Wilson, John Hale, Thomas Doherty, Job Bunker, John Smith, John Woolf, Johebert Sheffield, Robert Alsop James, Thomas Blin Harris, Thomas Etherly, Stephen Blossom, Stephen Brooks, Joseph King, Josiah Sare, Silas Daggett, John Collings, John Linston, Samuel Foodick, Thomas Van Dusen, Joseph Balies, John Williams, Solomon Capee, Joseph Pennett, David Freeman, John Williams, Thomas Nichols, Samuel Bunker, Joseph Hewett, Samuel Geer, John Short, Samuel Paston, John Lathergo, John Adams, Hezekiah Baker, Jotham Gardner, Elijah Loveland, William Palmer, Stephen Ward, Jonathan Miner, Timothy Murphey, Henry Hunt, Daniel Carr, John Hill, John Deming, and Joseph Merrills; William Garrick, murdered; returned by Capt. William Coit, captain of said ship.

#### BRIGANTINE HONOR.

The following was addressed to Mr. Elliot, the Connecticut agent at Boston, from the captain of the Oliver Cromwell.

SHIP OLIVER CROMWELL, July 8, 1777. }  
Latitude 45:12, Longitude 34. }

SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that we this day made prize of the brigantine Honor, from Cork, bound to Newfoundland, which I hope will arrive in some safe port. The master of the brig informs me, that he sailed in company with about 20 sail, bound for America, which he parted with about four days ago; so that I hope to give you an account of others of them in a short time.

I am, Sir, &c.

#### A VOTE TO EXPEL TORIES FROM NEW HAVEN, &c.

Richard Woodhull, Oliver Burr, Daniel Humphreys, Theophilus Chamberlain, and Thomas Gould, in answer to a vote passed in New Haven, viz.: "That every person who looked upon himself bound, either from conscience or choice, to give intelligence to our enemies of our situation, or otherwise take an active part, or yield obedience to any commands of King George III., so far as to take up arms against this town or the United Colonies, every such person be desired peaceably to depart this town." They stated they did not feel bound from conscience or choice to give intelligence to His Majesty's officers or troops, or to take an active part, or take up arms against New Haven or the United Colonies; but that they felt bound in conscience to submit themselves to every ordinance of man for the

Lord's sake, whether to the King as supreme or to governors, as unto them who are sent of Him for the punishment of evil-doers, and the praise of those who do well; and in conscience to seek the peace of the town, and pray unto the Lord for it, and live peaceably with all men.

Messrs. Daniel Lyman, Timothy Jones, Jr., John Lathrop, Henry Daggett, Lamberton Smith, Jr., and others, were appointed a committee by the town of New Haven, on the 6th day of November, 1775, to call together suspected persons, by virtue of said vote, before them, to be examined, to whom said Woodhull, &c. addressed a line, in which they acknowledged, that their answer aforesaid, should have been plain and simple, and they should have made answer, that "we hold ourselves bound in conscience to yield obedience to the commands of His Majesty King George III. so far as to take up arms against New Haven or the United Colonies;" and avoiding to give a plain answer to so plain a question, at a time when the town and country were disavowing their allegiance to the King, and were going into open rebellion against God and the King, was evidence to them, that they were influenced in the first answer by fear of man, and not of God, and was influenced by that strong bias, that is in man at all times, to shun the cross of Christ, and pass smooth and easy through the world; and stated that it became them to fear and tremble before God, who could not be deceived or mocked, for their great wickedness and guilt therein, and to say with the publican, "God be merciful to us sinners."

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#### BILLS ISSUED BY CONNECTICUT, IN AUGUST, 1777.

In August, 1777, the State of Connecticut had omitted in bills, £309,000; had taken up and burnt, £11,000; had then outstanding, £298,000; small bills deducted, £29,322:10; which left £268,677:10 in bills outstanding, not less than \$1; to redeem which, a tax of two-thirds was proposed, amounting to £273,000, amounting to £7,000 to each penny tax; £50,000 issued in notes of £10 each, payable at 4 per cent. in three years; £72,000 borrowed and payable at 6 per cent. in one year.

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#### A LETTER FROM STEPHEN HOPKINS TO HON. JOHN HANCOCK.

SPRINGFIELD, August 6, 1777.

The committees from the several States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, in pursuance of the proposal of the State of Massachusetts Bay, have met and conferred upon several subjects therein recommended, and have passed a number of resolutions, a copy of which, I am directed to lay before the Honorable Congress for their consideration. The first four of those States, the last winter, passed acts to prevent monopoly and oppression, in order to support the credit of their paper currency; but the other United States, not judging it expedient to enact similar laws, hath in a great measure, prevented their answering the good purposes for which they were intended, and has rendered it very difficult, if not impracticable fully to execute the same. Other measures, therefore, have now been agreed upon for the same purposes, the success of which, we apprehend, will greatly depend upon the concurrence of the United States; in the same we are so fully impressed with the importance of drawing in and sinking the bills of credit emitted by the several States; and of the necessity of large and frequent taxations, to supply the continental treasury, and to defray the charges of Government, that we

have earnestly recommended it to the several States we respectively represent; and we apprehend it will be absolutely necessary for similar measures to be adopted by the other United States, in order to support the credit of the paper currency, and to prevent any further emissions for the purposes of defraying the charges of the war, and the support of internal government. We submit the whole to the Honorable Congress, that such measures may be taken for that end as they in their great wisdom shall think proper.

I am in behalf of the committee, Sir,

your most obedient, and very humble servant,

STEPHEN HOPKINS.

#### MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY WHO TOOK THE OATH OF FIDELITY, IN AUGUST, 1777.

This may certify that the following gentlemen, members of the Lower House of Assembly of the State of Connecticut, were present attending in August 22, 1777, and had the oath of fidelity to this State, as provided by law, administered to them, viz.: Col. John Pitkin, Mr. Benjamin Payne, Col. Elisha Williams, Col. Isaac Lee, Mr. John Treadwell, Capt. Joseph Brooks, Mr. Ezra Brainard, Capt. Timothy Pearl, Col. Jabez Chapman, Mr. Samuel Huntington, Maj. Abiel Pease, Capt. Benjamin Talcott, Mr. Seth King, Maj. Elias Worthington, Mr. Peter Reynold, Capt. Jonathan Wells, Mr. Ebenezer Plummer, Mr. Titus Hosmer, Col. Comfort Sage, Mr. Ebenezer White, Capt. Henry Allen, Capt. James Hooker, Mr. Neziah Bliss, Mr. John Phelps, Col. Samuel Chapman, Col. Solomon Wills, Mr. Samuel Bishop, Jr., Mr. Pierpont Edwards, Mr. Joseph Hopkins, Capt. Ezra Bronson, Mr. Eliphalet Hotchkiss, James Beard, Samuel Beach, Col. Street Hall, Gideon Buckingham, Lewis Mallet, Jr., Nathaniel Stone, Nathaniel Roggles, Gen. James Wadsworth, Eleathan Camp, Maj. William Hillhouse, Benjamin Huntington, Rufus Lathrop, Maj. Charles Phelps, Nathaniel Minor, Capt. John Shipman, Col. William Worthington, Hezekiah Lane, Thomas Mumford, Col. Benadam Gallup, Col. Samuel Mott, Maj. Samuel Tyler, Maj. Elijah Abel, Capt. Abraham Brinsmade, Capt. Daniel Judson, John McKay, John Hoit, Jr., Daniel Betts, Jr., Moses Comstock, Maj. Eli Mygatt, Capt. Jabez Huntington, Nathaniel Wales, Jr., Joshua West, Capt. Nehemiah Lyon, David Payne, Constant Southworth, Edmund Freeman, Capt. Samuel Craft, Maj. Thomas Brown, Capt. Simon Learnard, John Canfield, Daniel Sherman, Capt. Simeon Smith, Samuel Comstock, Oliver Warner, Capt. Aaron Austin, Col. Seth Smith, Ephraim Hubbell, Jr., Capt. Justus Sackett, Col. Epaphras Sheldon, Nehemiah Andrews, John Pierce, Capt. Josiah Phelps, Col. Joshua Porter, and Capt. Abiel Camp.

Certified.

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

The gentlemen members of this Assembly, whose names follow, took the oath of fidelity prescribed by the law of this State, viz.: the Governor, Deputy Governor, Jabez Hamlin, Elisha Sheldon, Jabez Huntington, William Pitkin, Roger Sherman, Abraham Davenport, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Secretary, and Sheriff Williams.

SEPTEMBER, 1777.

The cargo of the brig Honor, was made sale of in September, 1777, together with the brig, and amounted as per account of sales, to £10,204 : 18 : 3½.

## POLITICAL CREED, &amp;c. OF THE SANDEMANIANS.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1777.

To Messrs. Samuel Bishop, David Austin, and Timothy Jones, Jr. :

Gentlemen,—Your desire having been signified to us by Mr. Chamberlain, that we would make a declaration of what we profess touching that subjection which we are bound by the word of God to yield to the higher powers, do say ; we are bound to hearken to that word : “ Be not afraid of them who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do, but I will forewarn you whom you shall fear ; fear Him, whom after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell ; yea, I say unto you, fear Him : ” His word and authority obliges us to be subject to the higher powers : the powers that be, which are ordained of God ; to be subject to the King as supreme, and to governors as those who are sent by him for the punishment of evil-doers, and the praise of them who do well ; to fear the Lord and the King, and not meddle with them who are given to change ; these and such like words, by which we must be judged at the last day, bind our consciences to be faithful and loyal subjects to our sovereign King George the Third, whom God preserve, to whose government we are heartily attached, to give no countenance, aid, or assistance to any design formed against this government, but to conduct as loyal subjects ; to obey his laws, his commands, and those of subordinate rulers in all things, wherein they do not interfere with the commands of our Maker, in which case we ought to obey God rather than man. That, as according to the Scriptures, the kingdoms of this world are to be defended by the sword ; a command from the sovereign to his faithful subjects, to assist in the defence of his government at the peril of their lives, when they are in a situation that admits of it, is a lawful command ; and even in the situation in which we now are, we are bound to a dutiful, loyal, obedient conduct, such as our situation will admit of ; and although we earnestly wish to live in peace, and have no inclination to bear arms or become soldiers in a lawful war ; yet the exhortation of John the Baptist, and the case of Cornelius, oblige us to conclude that the soldier’s calling is a lawful one for Christians, as well as other men.

This faith respecting the commands of the Lord touching subjecting, we have heretofore possessed, when it appeared to us that we were, in the course of Providence, called to speak of it, and for this we have suffered ; neither can we conceal or dissemble or soften the commands before mentioned, without being ashamed of Christ and his words before men, and incurring that much to be dreaded consequence the Son of *Man’s being ashamed of us before his Father and before his angels*. We hold ourselves equally obliged, if it be possible, as much as in us lieth, to live peaceably with all men ; to do good to all men as we have opportunity ; to be inoffensive among our neighbors ; to love and pray for our enemies ; never to avenge ourselves, nor to bear ill will to any man ; to be no busy bodies in other men’s matters, but with quietness to work and eat our own bread. How far our conduct has corresponded to this we must appeal to our neighbors. Suffering for these sentiments, it must appear to our consciences that we suffer for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ ; this we ought to esteem a great honor, of which we were never worthy. Our consciences do not condemn us as suffering for evil doing, or as having done any thing against men that will acquit them in the righteous judgment of God, for bringing such sufferings upon us.

If we are to be deprived of that liberty which we have in no wise forfeited,

happy shall we be if it be given to us from above to suffer with patience. We are able to get a subsistence in this place in our lawful callings without being a burden to our neighbors ; if we are removed or confined, this is taken from us ; we would be glad therefore to be permitted to continue here if we may live in quiet and unmolested. We wish not to be sent into the country, or to be separated to prevent our assembling on the first day of the week, to continue steadfastly in the Apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and the breaking of bread, and the prayers. But if we are not to be permitted the free exercise of the Christian profession in this place, as Christians may lawfully wish to enjoy the protection and blessings of government, that merciful ordinance of God ; and as the Lord has, in his tender mercy, permitted his disciples to flee from persecutions, saying, "If they persecute you in one city, flee ye to another ;" our wish is, that we may be suffered peaceably to retire, with our families, to some convenient place more immediately under the King's protection, that we may seek some place where we may sojourn in peace, and worship God according to his word ; and that this may be allowed in such a way that we may not be molested by the people in departing. And we wish that our dear brother, Oliver Burr, suffering in prison for hearkening to that command of the Lord, which requires us to do good to all men as we have opportunity, may be suffered to go with us, with his family.

We are, Gentlemen, your well wishers.

New Haven, September 14, 1777.

(Signed)

Joseph Pynchon, Theophilus Chamberlain, Benjamin Smith, William Richmond, Daniel Humphreys, Titus Smith, Richard Woodhull, Thomas Gold.

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#### COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR REGULATING THE NAVY OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

We, your Honors' committee, appointed to take into consideration what measures ought to be come into, for the better regulation and government of the navy or vessels of force fitted out by this State, and the officers, marines, and mariners employed on board of said vessels ; take leave to report, that in the opinion of this committee, the following Bill be passed into an act of this Assembly, viz. :

An act for the better regulation of the navy, being vessels of war belonging to this State.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the commanders of all ships and vessels of war belonging to this State, are strictly required to shew in themselves, a good example of honor and virtue to their under officers and men, and to be very vigilant in inspecting the behavior of all such as are under them, and to discountenance and suppress all dissolute, immoral, and disorderly practices, and all such as are contrary to the rules of discipline and obedience, and to correct those who are guilty of the same, according to the rules and usages in such cases.

The commanders of ships, when there is a chaplain, are to take care that divine service be daily performed, morning and evening, and a sermon preached on Sundays, unless bad weather or other extraordinary accident prevent.

If any person shall be heard to swear, curse, or blaspheme the name of God,

the commander is strictly enjoined to punish them for every offence, by causing them to wear a woollen collar, or some other shameful badge of *distinction* for so long time as he should judge proper.

He who is guilty of drunkenness, if a seaman, shall be put in irons until he is sober ; but if an officer, he shall forfeit two days pay.

No commander of any ship or vessel, shall inflict any punishment upon a seaman, beyond twelve lashes upon his naked back, with a suitable whip, without the sentence of a court martial ; but if the offence require it, he may apply for a court martial, and in the mean time confine the offender.

The commander of any ship or vessel, is never by his own authority, to discharge a commissioned or warrant officer, nor to punish or strike him, but he may suspend or confine them for offences until a court martial can be holden for the trial of their offence.

The officer who commands, by accident of the captain or commander's absence, (unless he be absent for a time, by leave,) shall not order any correction, but confinement ; and upon the captain's return on board, he shall then give an account of his reasons for so doing.

The captain is to cause the articles of war to be hung up in some public place of the ship, and read to the ship's company once a month.

The seamen shall, at their request, be furnished with slops that are necessary, by the captain or purser, who shall keep an account of the same.

The captain, before he sails on a cruise, shall make return, and leave with the Governor or commander-in-chief of this State, or such other persons as shall be appointed for that purpose, a complete list of all the officers and men, with the time and terms of their enlistment and entering ; and during his cruise, shall keep a true account of the desertion or death of any of them, and of the entering of others ; and after his cruise, and before any of them are paid off, he shall make return of a complete list of the same, including those who shall remain on board his ship, together with an account of the slops and necessary articles delivered out to each man, which ought to be deducted out of their pay.

The captain is to take care when any inferior officers or volunteer seamen are turned over into the ship under his command, from any other ship, not to rate them on the ship's books, in a worse quality, or a lower degree or station, than they served in the ships they were removed from ; and for his guidance, he is to demand from the commander of the ship from which they were turned over, a list, under his hand, of their names and qualities.

Any officer, seaman, or others, entitled to wages or prize money, may have the same paid to his assigns or agent, provided the assignment or power of agency be attested by the captain or commander, the master or purser of the ship, or any assistant or justice of the peace.

The captain is to discourage the seamen of his ship from selling any part of their wages and shares, and never to attest a letter of attorney of any seaman, until he is fully satisfied that the same is not granted in consideration of money given for the purchase of his share or wages.

When any inferior officer or seaman dies, the captain is forthwith to make out a ticket for the time of his service, and return the same to the Governor or commander-in-chief of this State, or other persons, for that purpose appointed, in order that the wages may be paid to the executor or administrators of the deceased.



A convenient place shall be set apart for sick or hurt men, to which they are to be removed with their hammocks and bedding, when the surgeon shall advise the same to be necessary, and some of the crew shall be appointed to attend and serve them, and keep the place clean.

It is left to the discretion of the commanders to shorten the allowance of provisions, when absolute necessity shall require it, taking care that the men be punctually paid for the same.

The captain shall frequently order the proper officer to inspect the condition of the provisions, of all kinds on board, and take all due and necessary care to preserve the same good, wholesome, and fit for use.

The captain or purser, shall secure the clothing, bedding, and all other articles and things, of such persons as shall die or be killed, with a true inventory thereof, to be delivered to their executors or administrators.

All papers, charter parties, bills of lading, passports, and other writings whatsoever, found on board any ship or ships, which shall be taken, shall be carefully preserved, and the originals sent to the courts of justice for maritime affairs; and if any person or persons, shall wittingly or negligently destroy, or suffer to be destroyed, or wittingly conceal from the proper officer, any such paper or papers, he or they so offending shall forfeit their share of such prize or prizes, and suffer such other punishments as the offence shall deserve, by the judgment of a court martial.

When in sight of the ship or ships of the enemy, and at such other times as may make it appear necessary to prepare for an action or engagement, the captain shall order all things in his ship in proper posture for fight; and shall in his own person, and according to his duty, heart on and encourage the inferior officers and men to fight courageously, and not to behave themselves faintly, or cry for quarters, on pain of such punishment as the offence shall appear to deserve for his neglect.

Any captain or other officer, mariner, or others, who shall basely desert their duty or station in the ships, or run away while the enemy is in sight, or in time of action, or shall entice others so to do, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court martial shall inflict.

Any officer, seaman, or mariner, who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any meeting or sedition in the ship to which he belongs, on any pretence whatever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court martial shall direct.

Any person in or belonging to the ship, who shall utter any words of sedition or mutiny, or endeavor to make any mutinous assembly on any pretence whatever, shall suffer such punishment as a court martial shall inflict.

None shall presume to quarrel with, or strike his superior, on pain of such punishment as a court martial shall order to be inflicted.

If any person shall apprehend he has just cause of complaint, he shall quietly and directly make the same known to his superior officer, or to the captain, as the case may require, who shall take care that justice be done him.

There shall be no quarrelling or fighting between shipmates on board any ship, nor shall there be used any reproachful or provoking speeches, tending to make quarrels and disturbance, on pain of imprisonment, and such other punishment as a court martial shall think proper to inflict.

If any person shall sleep upon his watch, or negligently perform his duty which shall be enjoined him to do, or forsake his station, he shall suffer such

punishment as a court martial shall judge proper to inflict, according to the nature of his offence.

All murder shall be punished with death.

All robbery and theft shall be punished at the discretion of a court martial.

Any master at arms who shall refuse to receive such prisoner or prisoners, as shall be committed to his charge, or having received them, shall suffer him or them to escape, or dismiss them without orders for so doing, shall suffer in his or their stead, as a court martial shall order and direct.

The captain, officers, and others, shall use their utmost endeavors to detect, apprehend, and bring to punishment, all offenders; and shall at all times readily assist the officers appointed for that purpose, in discharge of their duty, on pain of being proceeded against and punished at discretion.

All other faults, disorders, and misdemeanors which shall be committed on board any ship, which are not herein mentioned, shall be punished according to the laws, usages, and customs in such cases at sea.

That His Excellency the Governor, or commander-in-chief of this State for the time being, be, and he is hereby fully empowered to appoint a court martial for the trial of all capital crimes committed at sea on board any of the vessels of war belonging to this State; which court martial shall consist of nine members at least, and as many of them as may be obtained without delay, shall consist of officers belonging to the navy of this State.

That in cases not capital, the commander or captain of any ship or vessel may appoint a court martial, which shall consist of at least one captain, one lieutenant of marines, if there shall be such officer of the marines then present; and the eldest captain shall preside where more are appointed.

All sea officers of the same denomination shall take rank of the officers of marines.

That in all cases where the nature of the case shall require, His Excellency the Governor, or commander-in-chief of this State, is empowered to appoint a court martial for the trial of offences not capital, committed at sea, on board any vessel of war belonging to this State.

Every member of a court martial shall take the following oath, viz.: "You swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules and regulations of the navy of the State of Connecticut, so help you God." Which oath shall be administered by the president to the other members, and the president shall himself be sworn by the officer in such court, next in rank.

All witnesses, before they may be admitted to give evidence, shall take the following oath, viz.: "You swear the evidence you shall give in the cause now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God."

And it shall be the duty of the president of every court martial to transmit to the Governor, or commander-in-chief of this State, every sentence which shall be given, with a summary of the evidence and proceedings thereon, by the first opportunity; and the sentence of a court martial, for any capital offence, shall not be put in execution until it be laid before the Governor, or commander-in-chief of this State; who shall have power to confirm such sentence, or respite and reprieve the offender, under such sentence, until the next session of the General Assembly.

The captain or commander of any ship or vessel, shall receive and obey all such orders and instructions, as shall be given him from time to time by His Excellency the Governor, and his Committee of Safety, or such other persons as shall be appointed for that purpose.

There shall be allowed to each man serving on board the vessels of force belonging to this State, a daily proportion of provisions, according as is expressed in the following table, viz.: Sunday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips. Monday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. peas or beans, and 4 oz. cheese. Tuesday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding. Wednesday, 1 lb. bread, 2 oz. butter, 4 oz. cheese, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. rice or samp. Thursday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. peas or beans. Friday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding. Saturday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. peas or beans, and 4 oz. cheese. Half pint of rum per man per day when at sea, and half that quantity when in port; one pint of vinegar for six men per week.

The pay of the officers and men shall be as follows, per calendar month, viz.: captain or commander, \$32; lieutenant, \$20; master, \$20; mates, \$15; boatswain, \$15; boatswain's first mate, \$9 34; boatswain's second mate, \$8; gunner, \$15; gunner's mate, \$10 67; surgeon, \$21 34; surgeon's mate, \$10 67; carpenter, \$15; carpenter's mate, \$10 67; cooper, \$15; midshipman, \$12; armorer, \$15; sail maker, \$12; yeoman, \$9; quarter master, \$9; quarter gunner, \$8; cook, \$12; coxswain, \$9; captain's clerk, \$15; steward, \$13 34; chaplain, \$20; able seamen, \$8; captain of marines, \$26 67; lieutenant of marines, \$18; sergeants, \$8; corporals, \$7 34; fifer, \$7 34; drummer, \$7 34; privates or marines, \$6 67.

If any person duly enlisted or engaged on board of any vessel, shall desert the same, he shall forfeit all his wages due, and share of prizes, and shall suffer such other punishment as a court martial shall judge; that in case of recapture, the recaptors shall have and retain, in lieu of salvage, one-eighth part of the true value of the vessel and cargo, or either, if the same hath been in possession of the enemy not more than twenty-four hours; if more than twenty-four hours, and less than forty-eight hours, one-fifth part; if more than forty-eight and less than ninety-six hours, one-third part; if more than ninety-six, the one-half, unless the vessel hath been legally condemned as a prize, in some court of admiralty, in which case the recaptors to have the whole.

That all captures, prizes, and shares, in lieu of salvage on the recaptures made by any ship or vessels belonging to this State, shall be and belong one-half thereof to the use of this State, and the other half to the use of the captors; the necessary charges of condemnation being first deducted.

That the captain of a single ship or armed vessel, have two-twentieth parts for his share of the prize allotted to the captors.

That the lieutenants of the ship, and of the marines, surgeons, chaplains, pursers, boatswains, gunners, carpenters, masters, mates, have three-twentieth parts, equally divided among them, share and share alike.

That the midshipmen, clerk, surgeon's mate, steward, sail-maker, cooper, armorer, boatswain's mate, cook, coxswain, and sergeants of marines, have three-twentieth parts equally divided among them, share and share alike.

That the remaining twelve-twentieth parts be divided among the rest of the ship's company, share and share alike.

Provided, that where more than one ship or vessel are in company and con-

cerned in the capture of any prize, the part of such prize which shall be adjudged to accrue to each ship or vessel, shall be shared and divided among the officers and crew of such ship or vessel, in the same proportion as above expressed in this act.

That no officer or man have any share but such as are actually on board their several vessels at the time any prize is taken, excepting such only as may have been ordered on board any other prizes before taken, or sent away by his or their commanding officers.

He who first discovers a ship or vessel which shall be made a prize, shall be entitled to a double share of such prize.

He who shall first board any ship or other vessel making resistance, which shall become a prize, shall be entitled to a triple share of such prize.

Provided, that this act shall continue and be in force until the rising of the General Assembly in May next, and no longer. All which is submitted by your Honors' most obedient humble servants.

Signed, per order,

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON.

Continued over till the next session of Assembly.

Test,

BENJAMIN PAYNE, Clerk.

Test,

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

### MEMORIAL OF NORWALK.

OCTOBER 14, 1777.

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, now sitting at Hartford :

The memorial of us, the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Norwalk, in said State, humbly sheweth : That the principal place of rendezvous for the enemy's shipping that cruise in the sound, is in Huntington Bay, on Long Island shore, where they have ever since the enemy took possession of New York and Long Island, been almost constantly stationed for the purpose of cruising in the sound, and for annoying, distressing, and plundering the inhabitants that live near the shores in the western towns in this State ; that the shores easterly and westerly in said Norwalk, are so extensive, and there are so many points and necks of land that put out into the sound, that it is impossible for this town to furnish a sufficient number of men to guard every part thereof from the ravages of the enemy ; that Huntington Bay is not more than eight or nine miles southerly from the island's points and shores in said Norwalk, and that the enemy frequently, just at night, cross the sound, and come upon us and take away our stock, and plunder us, notwithstanding the utmost care to prevent it ; and that the enemy have in some instances taken off part of our guards, and they very often of late, come hovering about our shores, and anchor about our islands with small armed sloops, and boats come within our harbor, and in two instances, have come in the night up our harbors and fired upon our houses, which causes frequent alarms, and creates great uneasiness among the women and children, who expect to be taken prisoners, or be robbed, plundered, and deprived of their whole subsistence and comforts of life ; and that as we have no armed force on the water, we have it not in our power to prevent the enemy's small sloops and boats coming into our harbors and distressing us. But your Honors' memorialists humbly conceive it would be otherwise, in case there would

be an armed sloop, of about six or eight guns, to cruise in the sound along the western shores in this State, from the experience that the inhabitants had of Capt. Hawley's cruising in the sound the last summer—as a vessel of such force would be sufficient to encounter and repel the enemy's small craft, and prevent them from coming within our harbors, and landing on our points, necks of land, and shores, and thereby relieve us in a great measure, from alarms, distresses, and danger. Whereupon your Honors' memorialists humbly pray your Honors to take their matter into consideration, and order that a well fitted vessel, of about six or eight guns be purchased, to cruise in the sound, at the public expense, for the protection of the western shores in this State, and the relief of the inhabitants thereof from the distress and danger they are in from the enemy; or in such other way grant relief in the premises, as your Honors in your great wisdom shall judge best, and your Honors' memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Dated at Norwalk, the 14th day of October, A. D. 1777.

(Signed)

John Rich, Nathan St. John, Jabez Gregory, Daniel Beth, Jr., John Abbot, Jr., Seth Abbot, Daniel Richards, John Hawley, Alvon Hyatt, Myer Myers, Abraham Benedict, Samuel Marvin, Isaiah Marvin, Hezekiah Hanford, Jesse Benedict, Nathaniel Raymond, Timothy Whitney, Ebenezer Lockwood, William Taylor, Jonathan Brown, Isaac Warren, Ichabod Marvin, Peter St. John, Aaron Adams, Uriah Smith, Daniel Finch, Eliphalet Lockwood, A. C. Jacobs, Abraham Gregory, Eleazer Hanford, Nathan Adams, Nehemiah Benedict, Asabel Raymond, Abraham Scribner, Nehemiah Grumman, Solomon Simson, Benjamin Jacobs, Matthew Marvin, Thomas Fitch, Stephen St. John, 2d., Nathaniel Benedict, Thaddeus Betts, David Comstock, Samuel Grumman, Ozias Marvin, Daniel Benedict, Stephen Cooler, Jr., John Hanford, Matthew Mallory, Thomas Comstock, Theophilus Fitch, Josiah Taylor, Jr., Azor Belden, Charles Pope, Robert Waters, Haynes Fitch, Daniel Fitch, William St. John, John Eversly, Daniel Eversly, Gershom Hyatt, Eli Reed, Jesse Raymond, Clap Raymond, Benjamin Wynkoop, Isaac Lewis, John Hyatt, Fountain Smith, David Whitney, Ebenezer Whitney, Phineas Hanford.

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DECEMBER 19, 1777.

In a letter from Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., to Gov. Trumbull, dated December 19, 1777, at New London, he stated that a number of seamen were brought from Long Island to New London, who belonged on board the British ship *Swan*, taken by Gen. Parsons, in his expedition to Long Island, and sent over to Maj. Buell, with orders to send them to Hartford. Mr. Shaw advised to send them immediately to New York, and redeem the Americans who had been taken in armed vessels. If the Governor approved of sending them to New York, he wished him to send an order to receive the prisoners from Maj. Buell or Gen. Parsons, and Mr. Shaw would send them to New York.

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John Bradford's account against Connecticut, for sales of four-sixteenths of the proceeds of property sold by him, of prizes taken by the Defence—of the ship *Lord Howe*, £181 : 3 : 4½; of the ship *George*, five-sixteenths of do., £900 : 18 : 7; of the brigantine *Annabella*, £123 : 2 : 10½. By proportion of sundries sold by William Greenleaf, paid to said Bradford, £82 : 1 : 4. £1,287 : 6 : 1½.

JANUARY, 1778.

On the 8th day of January, 1778, Samuel Shipman, of Saybrook, agent for said town, stated to the General Assembly, that since the commencement of the war with England to the 31st day of December, 1777, they had kept, by orders of the town authority, at the harbor, and on the sea coast, in said town, a guard for their protection, at the cost, (computing 6 shillings per day for each man, including provisions and ammunition, &c.,) of £246:11:10 lawful money, which sum was allowed and voted by said town to be paid; and stated that said guards were kept for the security of the State at large, as well as the town, and that said expense should be paid by the State, and prayed the Assembly to allow and pay the same; which petition was negatived.

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PETITION OF THE SELECTMEN OF HARTFORD TO REMOVE PRISONERS OF WAR.

JANUARY, 1778.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, holden at said Hartford, by adjournment, on the 23d day of December, A. D. 1777.

Voted, That the selectmen of this town, be, and they are hereby empowered and appointed to make application to the next General Assembly, for the removal of all prisoners of war that are, or shall be sent into this town, and for such other relief as the particular circumstances of said town doth, or may require.

A true copy of record, examined by

GEORGE WYLLYS, Register.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, convened at Hartford, by adjournment, on the 8th day of January, in the year of our Lord, 1778.

The memorial of the selectmen of the town of Hartford, for the time being, humbly sheweth: That the said town of Hartford, at their lawful meeting, on the 23d day of December last, passed the following vote, to wit: "Voted, That the selectmen of this town, be, and they are hereby empowered and appointed to make application to the next General Assembly, for the removal of all prisoners of war that are, or shall be sent into this town, and for such other relief as the particular circumstances of said town doth, or may require." Whereupon, the memorialists in pursuance of said trust, beg leave to observe to your Honors, that the placing, and continuing of prisoners of war in this town, has been found to be attended with innumerable ill consequences, not only to the inhabitants in general, but to the public welfare; that the public stores and magazines are hereby greatly exposed, and in some instances, have been stolen and lost; that as this town from its situation, and constant resort to it is almost the centre of the earliest public intelligence, so of course every material occurrence is the more liable to be communicated to the enemies of our country. It is also to be remarked that the price of the necessaries of life, such as wood, meat, bread, and clothing, is much increased by the British officers and their servants while in town, who do not stick at any sum to obtain the same, on purpose to distress the inhabitants, as well as to undervalue the currency of the country; that besides all this, they take every opportunity to debauch and alienate the

minds of such of the people, with whom they can possibly, by their address, have communication, they corrupt and vitiate their morals, and often induce the unwary to join in the commission of the grossest evils; and it is also apprehended that they are forming combinations with the blacks, so that the lives and property of many, are not without danger.

Wherefore, for these and many more reasons easy to suggest, the inhabitants of said town of Hartford, consider themselves greatly burthened and exposed, and cannot longer endure it, especially as these prisoners are now only under the direction of a commissary, who seldom doth, or can attend to their particular conduct or behavior. The memorialists, therefore, humbly pray your Honors' attention and consideration of the premises, and that such rule and order may be made thereon, as shall be thought reasonable and proper, and they as in duty bound shall pray.

Hartford, January 8, 1778.

(Signed)

Joseph Church, Joseph Sheldon, Joseph Talcott, Jr., Ashbel Pitkin, John Whitman, Jr., Jonathan Bull, Jonathan Wells, Selectmen.

#### NATHAN DENISON'S MEMORIAL.

JANUARY, 1778.

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, now sitting at Hartford :

The memorial of Nathan Denison, of Westmoreland, in the county of Westmoreland, humbly sheweth—That he being colonel of the 24th regiment of militia belonging to this State; and on the 20th day of December last, being informed that a band of tories were forming on the westward of said town of Westmoreland, in order to stir up the Indians of Tioga to join said tories, and kill and destroy the inhabitants of this State; upon which information your memorialist ordered part of his regiment to be immediately equipt, and march to suppress the conspirators; and also sent an express to the tribe of Indians at Tioga. The express being seven days in service, which service and expenses amounted to £5:9:6; and the officers and men who marched, were as follows, viz.: 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 captain, 5 subalterns, 7 sargeants, 5 corporals, and 93 rank and file, who were nine days in service; and also 1 subaltern and 11 who were four days in service, and were supplied with 100 pounds of powder, and about 300 pounds of ball, which was delivered out of the town stock, and expended in said expedition; which service and expenses being all for the defence of this and the rest of the United States. The memorialist therefore humbly prays your Honors to grant the wages and expenses of the officers and men, who marched about 80 miles up the river and took sundry tories, and happily contented the Tioga Indians, and entirely disbanded the conspirators; and also allow the town of Westmoreland the ammunition expended as aforesaid, and order the expenses of said tories, confined in gaol, paid out of the treasury of this State; or in any other way grant to your memorialist and men such a reasonable reward as your Honors, in your great wisdom shall think just.

Dated at Hartford, the 26th day of January, A. D. 1778.

NATHAN DENISON.

The prayer of the memorialist was granted.

[NOTE.—Col. Nathan Denison went up the Susquehannah river 80 miles after tories, the 20th day of December, 1777.]



## DANBURY RECORDS.

JANUARY, 1778.

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, to be holden at Hartford, by adjournment, on the 8th day of January inst. We your Honors' committee, appointed at your session in October last, to repair to Danbury, and there by every lawful means to enquire into and ascertain the right of every person that might be rendered precarious by the loss of the public records of said town, lately destroyed by the enemy, and to report, &c. : Beg liberty to report, That on the 11th day of November last, we repaired to said Danbury, (having previously notified the inhabitants,) and advised them to call a town meeting, and choose a committee in the various parts of the town, to collect from the inhabitants all the evidence of their title to their real estates, from deeds, surveys, and adjoining proprietors, &c., and to report to us, whereupon we adjourned to and met on the 29th day of December then next; and after a more thorough enquiry into the circumstances of said town, we find that some lands in said town are owned by persons not residing therein, and by minors, and persons inimical to the United States, that refuse to take any pains to ascertain their title, and others who have gone off and joined the enemy. Considering the various difficulties attending said town, beg leave to give it as our opinion, that an act be passed, directing that a committee be appointed by said town of Danbury to make proper surveys of all the highways and lands in said town, to the several persons now in possession, where there is no dispute but that he is the proper owner of such lands in possession, and to take all proper methods the circumstances will admit of to come at the knowledge of the right each person hath to his lands, and in such surveys to bound out the land mentioned, the metes and boundaries thereof, and on whom it adjoins, and what quantity it contains, and when said surveys are made and signed by the committee, and recorded in the town records of said town, to make a full and complete title of such land to the owner or owners, and that attested copies thereof may be given in evidence in any court of record. All which is submitted by your Honors' most obedient humble servants.

Danbury, December 31, 1777.

(Signed)

Daniel Sherman, Increase Moseley, Nehemiah Beardsley, Lemuel Sanford, Samuel Canfield, Caleb Baldwin, Jr., Committee.

The report of the committee is accepted.

## BRITISH DEPREDACTIONS IN DANBURY.

JANUARY, 1778.

Ebenezer White, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says, that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, at evening, there being a number of gentlemen at his house belonging to the British army, amongst which was one whom he understood was the Earl of Falkland's son, who told him (the deponent) that he was the first that entered Maj. Starr's house, and found a number of men in the house, among whom were two negroes, all of whom they instantly killed, and set fire to the house; and gave this for a reason why they did so, that it was their constant practice, where they found people shut up in a house and firing upon them, to kill them, and to burn the house; and further the deponent saith, that the said young gentleman told him that one of the negroes, after he had

run him through, rose up and attempted to shoot him, and that he the said Earl of Falkland's son cut his head off himself; which negro, the deponent understood since was the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Redding; and further the deponent saith not.

Danbury, January 26, 1778.

The Rev. Mr. Ebenezer White, the above deponent, personally appearing, made oath to the truth of the above written deposition.

Sworn to before me, Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace.

Ebenezer Weed, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says, that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, he being at home across the road opposite to Maj. Daniel Starr's house, he saw a negro at the house, which he knew to be the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Redding, about a half hour, as near as he can judge, before the British troops came to said house; and further the deponent saith, that in the evening of said day, he heard a man belonging to the British army, say that they had killed one dam'd black with the whites, in said Starr's house; and further the deponent saith not.

Danbury, January 26, 1778.

Sworn before Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace.

Anna Weed, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says, that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, she being at home across the road opposite to Maj. Starr's house, she saw a negro at said house, which she understood was the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Redding, but a short time before the British troops came up to the house; and further the deponent saith she heard one of the British soldiers say here is a dam'd black in the house, what shall we do with him? another answered, damn him, kill him, and immediately the house was in flames; and further the deponent saith not.

Danbury, January 26, 1778.

Sworn to before Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace.

#### BRITISH DEPREDACTIONS IN GUILFORD.

JANUARY, 1778.

To the Honorable General Assembly, holden at Hartford, on the 8th day of January:

The memorial of Noah Fowler, David Bishop, Nathan Chittenden, and William Starr, selectmen of the town of Guilford, humbly sheweth—That pursuant to a resolve of the General Assembly, in October, 1776, recommending to the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns on the sea coast and sound, immediately to set up a sufficient military watch and ward, and to order sufficient sentries to be set in all proper places contiguous to the sea or elsewhere. The authority and selectmen of Guilford proceeded to set up a watch consisting of 24 men, each night, divided into six sentries, which performed constant duty from the 20th of October to the 20th of December, 1776, and then ceased till the 12th of March, 1777, when they set the same number each night, till May 13th, when they were relieved by Capt. Sage, with a company of militia, who continued with them till the 8th of June following; soon after which, viz.: on the 17th of June, a party of the enemy landed at Sachem's Head in said town, burnt a dwelling house, barn, &c., and took off a number of cattle, sheep, &c.; whereupon it was thought necessary to keep a strong guard both day and night, as a large number of cattle were kept near the sea shore; accordingly the watch was enlarged to

60 men, which number went on duty day and night forty days, after which they hired a company of 30 men, which did duty fourteen days and nights, till the 5th of August, when they again ordered 40 men, which number did duty day and night till the 10th of November last; the whole expense of which guards have been borne by the said town, which allowing 4 shillings per man per day and night, and 2 shillings and 6 pence per man for night only, and deductions being made for those who were delinquent in doing duty, amounts to £1,025:13:4, which your memorialists humbly apprehend to be a very unequal burden on the said town; therefore humbly pray your Honors to take said matter into your wise consideration, and grant such relief as your Honors, in their wisdom shall think just and equal; and your memorialists as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Guilford, January 3, 1778.

(Signed)

Noah Fowler, David Bishop, Nathan Chittenden, William Starr, Selectmen.

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#### STAMFORD MEMORIAL.

FEBRUARY, 1778.

The selectmen of Stamford, in February, 1778, stated to the Assembly, that said town had been over charged in the number of soldiers assigned as their quota for filling up the continental army, by at least ten men, upon a computation of the whites, as returned in 1774; that since that time more than 100 men had joined the enemy from Stamford, and many others killed in battle, and others died in captivity, and many brought sick into the town from the army, to be taken care of, which diminished their numbers, and rendered it difficult, if not impracticable, to supply their quota as allotted, without greatly distressing the inhabitants; and more so by being a frontier town, being obliged themselves to perform more than their quota of service, to defend themselves and their neighbors. And therefore prayed the Legislature to grant them relief in the premises, under their distressed circumstances.

Stamford, February 16, 1778.

(Signed)

Abraham Davenport, Isaac Lockwood, Sylvanus Knapp, Selectmen.

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#### PETITION OF THE TOWN OF REDDING.

FEBRUARY, 1778.

To the Honorable General Assembly, sitting in February, 1778, by adjournment, at Hartford:

The petition of the civil authority and selectmen of the town of Redding, in Fairfield county, humbly sheweth—That the town of Redding is laboring at present, under so many misfortunes and inabilities, peculiar to ourselves, that are not common to the other towns of this State, makes it almost, if not altogether impossible for us to raise the proportion of men for the continental army as set to us by your Honors; we hope that we are and have always been willing to do our equal part in maintaining the common cause of America, and have exerted ourselves therein, always to the utmost of our abilities; yet we, your petitioners, think it our indispensable duty, which we owe to ourselves and our brethren of this town, to inform your Honors, that since the commencement of the present war, that no less than 49 able bodied, effective men, all inhabitants of this town, have been so inhumanly wicked and infatuated as to leave their friends, and most of them their families, and join the ministerial army, enemies

of this and the other United States of America, where they still remain ; and also out of those who were made prisoners by said enemy in their expedition to Danbury, six persons, inhabitants as aforesaid, died ; and we your petitioners, would farther inform your Honors, that we have now enlisted and engaged in the service during the present war, nine men more as artificers, which has greatly thinned the inhabitants of this, so small a town ; all which inconveniencies and misfortunes we labor under, over and above what we share in common with the other towns of this State ; wherefore we flatter ourselves that had your Honors been duly notified of our peculiar circumstances, your Honors would not (considering the smallness of our town, and the many families we have to support, whose estates are confiscated,) have set our proportion of men to be raised so high, as at present it is set. We, your Honors' petitioners, therefore, pray your Honors to take our case and particular circumstances into your wise consideration, and in your great goodness, grant us relief in the premises, and set our proportion of men to be raised, according to the number of our present able bodied, effective men ; and your petitioners as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

49 gone to the enemy, 6 dead prisoners, 9 artificers—total, 64.

Redding, February 13, 1778.

(Signed)

Lemuel Sanford, William Hawley, Justices of the Peace.

Hezekiah Sanford, William Heron, John Gray, Thaddeus Benedict, Selectmen.

These certify that there are but 112 able bodied, effective men, in both our train bands or companies, liable to do duty out of the State ; and that there has enlisted into the continental army out of Redding, 28 men.

Redding, February 13, 1778.

Certified per

JOHN GRAY, captain of the alarm list, and train band.

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APRIL 20, 1778.

Capt. Parker, in a letter, dated Oliver Cromwell, April 20, 1778, latitude 20, longitude 50, to Governor Trumbull, stated that if the Admiral Keppel should arrive safe in port, that John Tillinghast, his 3d lieutenant, who had the command of her, would give a particular account of the value of both ships and their cargoes. He stated that on Wednesday, the 13th of April, 1778, at about 10 o'clock, A. M., he fell in with the ships Admiral Keppel and Cyrus, from Bristol for Jamaica, both of them letters-of-marque, mounting eighteen excellent 6 pounders each ; that the Keppel had a very warlike appearance and was the best manned. He ran close along side of her, in the Cromwell, and received her first fire at some distance, but did not return it until he came close on board ; she gave the Cromwell a warm reception for about three glasses, when she struck. Capt. Parker had one man killed ; James Day, captain of marines, mortally wounded, soon died ; and two others had their thighs broken, of doubtful recovery ; three others wounded, one through the arm, one through the leg, the other in the shoulder, not dangerous. He stated that the courage and bravery of his raw, undisciplined men, could not fail of doing honor to their country ; and the merit of his officers, conspicuous to all, in keeping such inexperienced young boys, (as many of them were) to their quarters, without the show of fear or noise or confusion, through the whole short and warm action.

Lieut. Pease, of the Defence, brought in the Cyrus. Capt. Smedley was

unfortunate in having a leaky ship, by which his ship was weakened ; he also had the small pox on board. As Capt's. Parker and Smedley were intimate friends, Capt. Parker rendered him all assistance, and they had been mutually serviceable to each other. The invoices of the Keppel were inclosed to Capt. Jabez Perkins. He also sent the Governor a packet of late newspapers with a printed bill, with its amendments, to enable His Majesty to send commissions to America. He stated that he should cruise in the latitude where he then was, and then follow his orders, &c.

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MAY 20, 1778.

By a letter, dated Boston, May 20, 1778, from S. Elliot, Jr., to Gov. Trumbull, congratulating him on the arrival of the Cyrus, of 16 carriage guns, which with the Admiral Keppel, of 18 guns, taken by the ships Oliver Cromwell and Defence, after a smart engagement of three glasses. The gallant Capt. Day, with one man, was killed, and some wounded. The particulars of the engagement to be given by Mr. Cohoun, an officer of the Cromwell, (the bearer) to the Governor. The prize arrived safe at Cape Ann on the 19th day of May. The Admiral Keppel had not yet arrived.

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MAY 24, 1778.

By a letter from Samuel Elliot, Jr., at Boston, to Gov. Trumbull, dated May 24, 1778, it appears that the ship Admiral Keppel, which had been captured by the Cromwell and Defence, and arrived in Boston on Thursday previous to the aforesaid date, had on board a very valuable cargo, and the Hon. Henry Shirly and family, as passengers. Capt. Parker and Mr. Elliot gave Mr. Shirly a letter to Gov. Trumbull, to obtain liberty to return to his own country, or what would be more gratifying to him, to proceed to Jamaica. This prize was stated by Mr. Elliott, to be by far the most valuable prize that had been taken by the State's vessels, and that he would take charge of that moiety of the cargo which belonged to Connecticut. Capt. Parker stated in a letter to Gov. Trumbull, that Capt. Brown commanded the Admiral Keppel, bound from Bristol to Jamaica, transporting said Shirly and his lady and family to that island, to settle the affairs of his estate there. Mr. Shirly was a gentleman of estimable character, and had been ambassador from the court of Great Britain to that of Russia.

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JUNE 2, 1778.

Gov. Trumbull, in a letter to Samuel Elliot, Jr., dated Hartford, June 2, 1778, permitted Mr. Shirly to visit Connecticut by the middle road from Boston, with permission for Mr. Phipps and his surgeon and servants to accompany him, if he wished them, when the Governor would conclude on his claims, with directions to Mr. Elliot to assist him on his journey, and to make Mrs. Shirly and her daughter, as easy as their unfortunate situation would admit in his absence ; with directions that the prisoners who were seamen, should be kept on board the prize ship.

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MAY 24, 1778.

A letter, dated Boston, May 24, 1778, from Col. J. Trumbull to Gov. Trumbull, regarding Mr. Shirly ; in which he remarked, that Mr. Shirly was a gentleman of great fortune, of powerful connexions, and of course enabled to

become a mighty engine for or against this country ; that at that time he was favorably inclined towards us, and had taken no active part against the States ; and was of the opinion that good policy, not to say justice, would induce him to grant Mr. Shirley a flag, to transport him and his family to his estate in Jamaica, as he was the gentleman who formerly presented the Jamaica petition to the King of Great Britain in our favor. Also that he used his influence in the prize ship, over the prisoners on board to keep them quiet, without which it would have been impossible to have brought said prize into port, as the Oliver Cromwell had few seamen, and most of them sick with the small pox. Col. Trumbull also wished that the men, who so honestly brought in said ship, might be rewarded by a permission to return as hands on board the flag that should be granted to Mr. Shirley. Mr. Trumbull stated that it had been suggested to take from Mr. Shirley his personal furniture, such as bedding, clothing, &c. ; which act he conceived would be most infamous, and contrary to all practice. A difficulty had again arisen as to the prisoners, as the Council had demanded them of Mr. Elliott, to be confined on board the guard ships until exchanged ; but Mr. Elliot had refused to comply with the demand, until he should receive orders from the Governor of Connecticut. Col. Trumbull wished the dispute settled, by defining how far the authority of one State, might with propriety, interfere with that of another. The seamen of the Keppel disliked to be exchanged as prisoners of war, as they feared the consequence would be, their being impressed for the navy, a service which they detested.

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MAY, 1778.

Samuel Elliott, Jr., Esq., agent for Connecticut in Massachusetts, petitioned the Council of Massachusetts ; in which memorial he stated, that a number of passengers were on board the prize Keppel, viz. : Henry Shirley, Esq., his lady and daughter, a hand maid of Mrs. Shirley, and three servants of his ; also Mr. Phipps, of Jamaica, and Mr. Jepson, for whom he asked liberty to accommodate in Boston in a manner suited to their rank and character. Also that there were on board said prize ships, taken by the ships of war then in the Boston harbor, a number of sailors who enlisted to bring the vessels into port, which was necessary, as 60 of the men on board the Defence were inoculated for the small pox ; and that the Oliver Cromwell had been obliged to sail with a number of men far short of her complement ; and that the enlisted men had conducted well, of which he had informed Gov. Trumbull, and had engaged they should be kept on board said prize ships, and abide the directions of the Governor of Connecticut.

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MAY 30, 1778.

A letter from Gov. Trumbull to Mr. Elliott, dated at Hartford, on the 30th of May, 1778, was received, congratulating him on the news of the arrival of the prize Admiral Keppel and cargo, with the prisoners, Mr. Shirley, &c., with directions to pay proper attention to Mr. Shirley, and allow him all the indulgence consistent with his duty and the safety of the State.

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MAY 30, 1778.

By a letter from Gov. Trumbull to S. Elliott, Jr., dated Hartford, May 30, 1778, directing him to dispose of the provisions of the Cyrus and the other cargo, such as butter, cheese, hams, tripe, and sour crout, &c., owned by this

State, and to suspend the sale of other articles, until further orders, when a particular invoice of the cargoes should be received. Also gave directions that the seamen and marines taken on board said prize ships, should be humanely treated, and not confined in gaols or prison ships, with permission given them to enlist into the sea service, and such of them as should not so enlist, to be kept and exchanged for American seamen in the hands of the enemy.

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The prize ship Admiral Keppel, captured by Capt. Parkar, of the Cromwell, and Capt. Smedley, of the Defence—the ship and cargo sold at auction, Boston, July 8, 1778, for the sum of £22,320 : 18 : 9 ; net proceeds £22,013 : 18 : 9, by William Greenleaf.

Dated at Boston, September 23, 1778.

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#### NAMES OF SHIPS OF WAR.

The vessels of war in service, in this State, in the American revolution, were the brig Minerva, schooner Spy, Defence, ship Oliver Cromwell, row galley Shark, row galley Whiting, brig America, sloop Dolphin, sloop Mifflin, Resistance, sloop Schuyler, brig Silliman, frigate Trumbull, Bourbon frigate, row galley Crane, The Guilford, New Defence, Putnam, Revenge, sloop Stark, Young Cromwell, Confederacy, Count De Grasse, sloop Tiger, Alliance, and sloop Phoenix. [Connecticut Courant.]

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#### ATTACK OF THE BRITISH UPON NEW HAVEN.

JULY, 1779.

The following account was published in the Connecticut Gazette, a paper then printed by Timothy Green, Esq., at New London.

On the evening of the 5th of July, two expresses arrived at New London with despatches for the commanding officer at that post, with the information that 70 sail of British shipping from New York were in the sound, and supposed to be bound for New London. The second express stated, that they had landed at West Haven, at 6 o'clock, on Monday morning, and were advancing towards New Haven. Expresses were immediately sent into the towns back of New London, to notify the militia ; and the militia of New London and Groton were forthwith ordered under arms. By news from East Haven, Monday night, at 12 o'clock, it appeared the enemy on Monday morning, landed 700 men at East Haven Point, and took possession of a small fort, which mounted four guns ; that a brisk fire was heard at New Haven, at 11 o'clock, on Monday ; that the British came round the west part of the town, burnt the powder mill and paper mill, and marched through the north part of the town to Gallow's Hill, (an eminence which commanded the Hartford road, where they were intrenching, and had the entire possession of the town ; that the army consisted of about 2,600 men, a part of whom came from the North river to New Rochelle and embarked on board the ships. Heavy firing was heard at New Haven on Tuesday. The militia came in, in great numbers.

July 14, 1779. A farther account was given, that the troops were under Gen. Tryon, and landed in three divisions at 5 o'clock, on Monday morning, one at West Haven, another at East Haven, and a third at long wharf. The first division marched direct for the west bridge, where a few of the inhabitants were collected, and took up the bridge, by which they obliged the British to



march up the west side of the river, about two miles to Thompson's bridge, where the people had collected, and a smart skirmish ensued, and continued until the enemy entered the town, at 11 o'clock. The third division landed in town, (New Haven) about half after 11 o'clock; each party had killed about 23 persons, among whom were some officers. The British left New Haven about 7 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday, after having set fire to the stores, houses, and shipping at long wharf, and landed in East Haven, where they burned several houses, and at 6 P. M. embarked, and sailed at 7 o'clock. The British fleet then sailed direct to Fairfield, where the troops landed and burnt all the compact part of the town, except a few houses (10); they then embarked and went to Huntington, (Long Island,) where they lay until Saturday, and on that evening, they landed at Norwalk, in two parties, one on the east and the other on the west side of the harbor, about 2,500 men; the next morning they marched to the town, and about 6 o'clock, set fire to the buildings, and consumed the whole town, except a few scattering houses. A few continental and militia troops, commanded by Gen's. Wolcott and Parsons, made considerable resistance, and a few were killed on both sides, and about 2 o'clock, the same day, the troops embarked on board their vessels.

The west bridge on Milford road was taken up, and several field pieces carried there, and some slight works thrown up for the defence of that pass. The division under Gen. Garth being landed, immediately began their march towards the town. The first opposition made to them was by about 25 of the citizens to an advanced party of the enemy of two companies of light infantry. These, though advancing on Milford Hill, were attacked with great spirit, by the mere handful of inhabitants, driven back nearly to West Haven, and one of them taken prisoner. The British then advanced in their main body, with strong flanking parties and two cannon; but finding a smart fire kept up from the field pieces at the bridge aforesaid, dare not force an entrance to the town by the bridge, the usual road, but to make a circuitous march of nine miles, in order to enter New Haven by the Derby road. In this march, the small party of citizens on the Milford Hill increased to about 150 men, promiscuously collected from several companies of the militia, and had a smart encounter with the enemy's left flank, near the Milford road, where their Adjutant Campbell was killed, whom they greatly lamented. Our people being greatly overpowered by numbers on the Hill, gave way, but kept up a continual fire on the enemy and galled them much, on their march to Thompson's bridge, on the Derby road (to New Haven.) Those who were posted at the west bridge perceived the movements of the enemy; and that another large body of them had landed at the south end, on the east side of the harbor, quit the west bridge and marched to Thompson's bridge, but by the time they reached the banks of the river, the enemy were in possession of the bridge, and the places at which the river was there fordable; yet having received some strength by the coming in of the militia, they gave the British a smart fire from two field pieces and the small arms, which continued with little abatement, until the enemy were in possession of New Haven. The New Haven troops and people were obliged to retreat, either to the fields north and west of the town, or through the town across the neck bridge. The enemy entered the town between 12 and 1 o'clock. In the mean time, the division of the enemy, before mentioned to have landed at the end, which was under the immediate command of Gen. Tryon, was bravely resisted by a small

party of men, with one field piece, who, besides other execution, killed an officer of the enemy in one of their boats at their landing. This division marched up by land and attacked the fort at Black Rock ; at the same time, their shipping drew up and attacked it from the harbor. The fort had only 19 men and three pieces of artillery, yet was defended as long as reason or valor dictated, and then the men made their retreat. The town being now in the full possession of the enemy, it was, notwithstanding their proclamation, delivered up, except a few instances of protection, to promiscuous plunder ; in which, besides robbing the inhabitants of their watches, money, plate, buckles, clothing, bedding, and provisions, &c. ; they broke and destroyed household furniture and other property to a very great amount ; some families lost all, and many were left without food or a change of clothing. A body of militia sufficient to penetrate the town could not be collected that evening ; and the inhabitants were obliged to be satisfied with annoying the enemy, which was done with spirit most of the afternoon, about Ditch Corner.

Early on Tuesday morning, the enemy unexpectedly, and with perfect stillness and despatch, called in their guards and retreated to their boats, and carried with them several of the inhabitants as prisoners, most of whom were taken without arms, a part of whom went on board the British fleet, and others crossed over to Gen. Tryon, at East Haven. On Tuesday afternoon, the militia had collected in such numbers, and crowded so close upon Gen. Tryon, that he retreated on board his fleet, and set sail to the westward.

The loss of the enemy was not known, but was supposed to be considerable, including some officers, besides Adjutant Campbell. The Americans had, from the best information, 27 killed and 19 wounded. Several of our men appeared to have been wounded with shot, though not mortally, but were afterwards killed with bayonets. Gen. Garth declared to one of the militia who was wounded, that he was sorry his men had not killed him, instead of taking him, and that he would not have his men give quarters to one militia man taken under arms.

Although, in this expedition, it must be confessed, to the credit of the Britons, that they did not do all the injury in their power, yet the brutal ravishment of women, the wanton and malicious destruction of property, the burning the stores on the wharf, and eight houses in East Haven. The beating Stabing, and insulting the Rev. Dr. Daggett, after he was made a prisoner, the mortally wounding of Mr. Beers, Sen., in his own door, and otherwise abusing him ; the murdering the worthy, aged, and helpless Mr. English, in his own house ; the beating, cutting out the tongue, and killing a deranged man, are sufficient proofs of their being Britons.

The troops were conducted to New Haven by one William Chandler, son of Joshua Chandler, then late of New Haven, who with his family, left the place with the enemy in their retreat.

The British carried away between 30 and 40 of the inhabitants ; among them John Whiting, Esq., judge of probate and clerk of the county court. They left New Haven Tuesday evening, and on the next day (7th) landed at Fairfield, and notwithstanding some force there collected, they entered it, and plundered all they could carry off, and burned the compact part of the town, being near 100 dwelling houses, besides the public buildings, and the meeting house, and 13 dwelling houses at Green's Farms, and 8 at Mill River, within Fairfield bounds.

On Saturday, of the same week, the enemy's fleet appeared off Norwalk, and

early next morning, landed the British troops at Norwalk, and laid the town in ashes, together with the church and meeting house, stores, barns, &c., and killed 5 or 6 men at Norwalk, and 3 or 4 at Fairfield.

[DEPOSITIONS.]

Sarah Townsend, of New Haven, testified, that when the British forces entered New Haven, about noon, on the 5th of July, 1779, a party of them soon came to her husband's house, and in a very furious manner, with horrid execrations, seized her husband, and stripped him instantly of his buckles and shoes, and took him away at the point of their bayonets, down to the wharf, on board a vessel, and left her with a number of small children and an aged aunt in the utmost distress. At other times, other British soldiers visited the house, who she tried to oblige and mollify as far as possible by provisions and drink, as they wished, yet they plundered, took away or spoiled the furniture of the house, and threatened her life, with the most shocking execrations, until through her fears and the cries of her children, she was ready to sink and give out. Late in the afternoon, she understood that Sir George Collier was in the next house; she resolved to apply to him, for protection from such perpetual abuses, and trusted that an officer of such distinction, would at least act the gentleman, and take pity on her. She met him in the street, and applied to him in the most complacent manner, she was able, with a child hanging on each side of her, and a babe in her arms. He heard her story, but answered her roughly, and said he supposed her husband was a rebel, &c.; she replied, that her husband was quiet in his house, when taken, and had not been under arms that day, &c. Sir George looked at her babe, and said "You have got a pretty child there; is it yours?" she told him it was. He then said to her, "Are you willing that it should be cut up, and made a pie of? the Congress, they say, eat such pies, and they are very good." She made no direct reply, for she was so affected, she was unable to express herself; but continued to importune for relief and protection. He at last told her, "You may tell them Sir George Collier says, they must not hurt you," and went off; she complied with his direction, to very little effect. She said this is a very imperfect representation of the abuse and cruel treatment she received.

(Signed)

SARAH TOWNSEND.

Sworn before SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Justice of the Peace.

John Collins, formerly an officer in the continental navy, sick at the house of Capt. Thomas Wooster, in New Haven, testified, that on the 5th day of July, 1779, soon after the British army took possession of New Haven, a number of British soldiers entered Mrs. Wooster's house, (the widow of Gen. Wooster,) and demanded of her, her silver and silver plate; she told them she had none in the house. They then demanded her pockets, which she refused; one of the soldiers seized her by her shoulder, swore she had plate, and he would kill her unless she delivered it. She then took a watch from her pocket and gave it to them, and laid some other trifles on the table, and attempted to escape at the door. They cried, damn her, stop her, and laid violent hands upon her; and one leveled his gun at her breast, damned her, and swore if she moved a step, he would shoot her dead. They then demanded her ear rings, and her handkerchief from her neck. She asked them if they were not ashamed to treat a woman thus; one replied, damn you, do you think you must wear a silk

handkerchief when I have none? As they were about to use violence to obtain them, Mrs. Wooster delivered them up. They then turned their attention to Mr. Collins, and made him a prisoner, when Mrs. Wooster escaped; as they found Mr. Collins was unable to go with them, they took from him his hat, stock buckle, shoe and kneebuckles, they then seized him by the shoulder, threw him upon the floor, presented a bayonet at his breast, then reeking with blood, as he supposed of the aged Capt. English, who had just been murdered, and swore they would kill him, if he did not immediately tell them where his money was. He told them he had none, and he was not the owner of the house. They damned him, and swore he lied, and they would run him through if he did not disclose where his money was; they searched his pockets and found a paper they swore was his commission, and swore he was a damned officer in the rebel service, and they would kill him instantly.

Sworn July 26, 1779, before SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Justice of the Peace.

[NOTE.—It appears by the testimony of Rose Luke and Mrs. Gatter, that several attempts, to violate chastity, by the soldiers, occurred in New Haven, on the 5th of July, 1779.]

Elias Beers, of lawful age, testifies and says, that he saw his father, Nathan Beers, late of New Haven, about three hours after he was wounded by the enemy, on the 5th of July, 1779, and received from his mouth the following account of the treatment he received from the enemy, viz.: that upon their entrance into town, an officer, mortally wounded, near his father's house, was brought in and dressed there, whom his father assisted with bandages, &c., for dressing his wound, besides treating them with kindness and hospitality, for which the (British) officer, on his departure, returned him thanks, and said he should not be hurt, but protected for his kindness. After the officer was carried away, a party of soldiers came upon him as he was peaceably standing at his front door, and charged him with firing out of his house, which he denied: he told them he had no arms in his house; he saw by their motions, they intended murdering him; he added, I am an old infirm man, I am not able to do you any hurt, and have done nothing to oppose you, all I have is in your hands, why should you take away my life. Unmoved by this remonstrance, they snapped three guns with fixed bayonets at his breast, one of the guns only went off, which he struck down from his breast, and the ball entered his right hip, and as he fell, they were about to end his life with their bayonets, but he begged to be spared, told them he was mortally wounded. The party then left him, and went to plundering the house. After the loss of much blood, he got to the bed, and in some measure stopped the blood; another party came in soon after, hauled him from the bed, demanded his money, kicked and otherwise abused and insulted him, and set his wound bleeding again; being deaf to all entreaties, several parties, one after another, plundering, and destroying furniture, &c., came at him with fixed bayonets, insulted, threatened, and abused him; of these wounds he died on the 10th of July, 1779, in the 61st year of his age.

ELIAS BEERS.

New Haven, July 26, 1779. Sworn before SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Just. Peace.

Isaac Beers agreed to the facts testified by his brother Elias, and testified that he was himself taken a prisoner in his own house, and when a prisoner he heard Gen. Garth tell Mr. Isaac Woodin, who was a wounded prisoner, that

he was sorry his men had not killed him instead of making him a prisoner, and that he would not have his men give quarters to one militia man taken in arms.

July 26, 1779. Sworn before SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Justice of the Peace.

On the 24th of July, 1779, Lois Cook, of New Haven, testified, that on the 5th day of July, 1779, Elisha Tuttle, of New Haven, a distracted person, was laid at her door, wounded and in his gore, by the British troops soon after they entered the town. They asked her if she knew him? She washed off the blood, and told them his name and circumstances. One of the officers seemed affected, and permitted her to take charge of him. He had many wounds on his head and body, and one on his tongue; and a part of his tongue on the 3d day came off, and he soon after died. The wounds appeared to have been made by a bayonet.

Sworn before ENEAS MUNSON, Justice of the Peace.

Abigail English, of New Haven, testified, that on the 5th day of July, 1779, when the British troops were in New Haven, that Benjamin English, aged 74 years, was alone in his house, and she saw a number of British troops at his well, drinking water; and soon saw a soldier come out of his house, at the back door. Said English came to the back door, with his hand on his breast, and the blood running; and he cried out—he has stabbed me, he has stabbed me. And she asked why he stabbed him? he answered, he could not say, for he humored them as much as lay in his power. Said English walked about two rods, and fell, and instantly expired. He had three wounds in his breast, as if made by a bayonet. She went into the house, and found blood in the great chair where he usually sat, and where she supposed he received his mortal wound.

July 28, 1779. Sworn before ENEAS MUNSON, Justice of the Peace.

Charles Alling, of New Haven, testified, that he saw examined, and assisted in burying Capt. John Gilbert, Asa Todd, Joseph Dorman, Samuel Woodin, and Silas Woodin. That Capt. Gilbert was shot through the knee, and then appeared to have been killed with a club, as his head was badly bruised, and a bloody club lay upon him. That no wound appeared upon the person of Asa Todd, except he was pierced with a bayonet, once through the head, and twice through the body. That Joseph Dorman had his thigh broken just above his knee, but it appeared to have been done with a stone, which lay by him bloody; and yet he was pierced with bayonets, once through the head and once through the body, but no other wound. That Samuel Woodin appeared to be shot through the body with a grape shot, and no otherwise wounded; that he could say nothing in particular, as to Silas Woodin.

(Signed)

CHARLES ALLING.

Sworn at New Haven, July 26, 1779, before SAMUEL BISHOP, Jr., Just. Peace.

[NOTE.—The Deposition of the Rev. Napthali Daggett, is omitted in this work, as it has been published in the Connecticut Historical Collections, by J. W. Barber.]

#### DAMAGE BY THE BRITISH TROOPS IN NEW HAVEN.

JULY 5, 1779.

A committee was appointed by the General Assembly of this State, in October, A. D. 1779, to enquire into and estimate the losses of the inhabitants of New Haven, by the hostile invasion of the British troops. The committee met

at New Haven, on the 14th day of December, 1779, and examined the losses of the sufferers, and computed each article at the price of the article in the year 1774, except West India rum, which was estimated at 6 shillings per gallon, molasses at 4 shillings per gallon, wine at 12 shillings per gallon, French brandy at 15 shillings per gallon, salt at 12 shillings per bushel, brown sugar at 1 shilling per pound, bohea tea at 6 shillings per pound, loaf sugar at 2 shillings per pound, and chocolate at 3 shillings per pound; and said committee reported to the General Assembly, in January, 1780, the name and loss of each sufferer, which report was accepted by said Assembly, and approved, and ordered to be lodged on file in the Secretary's office. The amount of the total loss so reported was £24,893 : 7 : 6, as cash in 1774, (and £1,892 continental money,) which was destroyed by the British; which report was made by Samuel Barker, Joseph Hopkins, and Gideon Buckingham, as committee, and by them signed.

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JULY 5, 1779.

An account of the losses sustained by the inhabitants of New Haven, by the British troops, July 5, 1779, as estimated by the sufferers, is found in the Secretary of State's office, without any action of the Legislature endorsed upon it, which amounts to the sum of £23,703 : 10; which account is certified by Samuel Bishop, Jr., to be an account of the losses sustained when the enemy came into New Haven, which certificate is dated at Lebanon, August 3, 1779, from which facts, it is presumed, the account was lodged with Gov. Trumbull.

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#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES UPON THE LOSSES IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY BY THE INVASION OF THE BRITISH.

##### GREENWICH.

In the month of October, 1779, the General Assembly of this State, appointed James Beard, Increase Mosely, and Elisha Mills, a committee to enquire into and estimate the losses of every individual in the town of Greenwich, occasioned by the hostile invasion of the British troops; and to abate State taxes, (in whole or part) of such of the sufferers, as in their opinion were proper subjects. The committee met at Greenwich, on the 30th day of November, 1779, and enquired into said losses, by receiving from each claimant, under oath or affirmation, a list of the several articles they had lost, with the prices affixed, at the rate they were usually sold in the year 1774; and the committee examined and adjusted said lists and prices as uniformly alike as possible, with each person's loss annexed to his name, which was so reported to the Assembly, holden in January, 1780, which amounted to the sum of £6,365 : 11 : 8; beside £369 : 17 : 7, which last was exhibited to the committee by persons who had not taken the oath of fidelity to this State, a part of whom, were of a suspicious character, and therefore were reported separate from the others. The committee then considered the circumstances of the inhabitants of said town, for the purpose of designating the greatest sufferers, in being robbed of their effects, drove from their farms, and otherwise harassed by the enemy, in order to determine who were proper persons to have their State taxes abated, which were then due, and would be due, by the 20th of the next January; whose names and sums annexed, were reported to the General Assembly, which amounted to the sum of £5,010 : 1 : 4, signed by said committee, and dated at Derby, December 24, 1779. The committee's wages, fourteen days, at £9 each per day, is £378; expenses of men and horses, £237 : 7 : 8; which report was accepted and ordered on file.

## [GREENWICH PETITION.]

John Mead and Jabez Fitch, of Greenwich, in behalf of the sufferers of said Greenwich, whose property had been destroyed by the British, after March, A. D. 1779, brought their petition to the General Assembly, holden at New Haven, January, 1783, for reparation of damages. The Assembly appointed Philip B. Beardsley and Nehemiah Beardsley, a committee to examine into the losses of the inhabitants of said town. The committee notified the sufferers, and on the 17th day of December, 1782, repaired to Greenwich, consulted with the authority and selectmen of the town, upon the subject of their mission, and proceeded strictly to examine on oath, every sufferer by the British depredators, who exhibited an account, and other evidence. And at the May term of the Assembly, in 1787, reported, each sufferer in said Greenwich, with the sum they found he had been injured by the British, annexed to his or her name, which amounted in the whole, to the sum of £12,430 : 18 : 7; the consideration of said report in May, 1787, was referred by the Assembly to the Legislature, to be holden at New Haven, October, 1787.

## DANBURY.

A committee which consisted of Daniel Sherman, Increase Moseley, Nehemiah Beardsley, and Lemuel Sanford, Esq's., appointed by the General Assembly in May, 1777, on a memorial of the selectmen of Danbury, to estimate the damages sustained by the inhabitants of said town, by the incursion of the British troops: In which they stated, that about twenty dwelling houses, with a number of barns, stores, and other buildings, were destroyed; and that the enemy on their retreat, collected and drove away all the cattle, horses, and sheep, &c., they could find. The committee were appointed to estimate the damage and loss of each sufferer in said town, occasioned by the British, and make their report of the same to the Assembly, that the actual losses should be distinctly known, and subject to the acts of some future Legislature. The committee repaired to Danbury on the 3d day of June, 1777, after having notified the inhabitants, and from day to day examined the losses of each sufferer on oath, and by other evidence, and allowed to each his damage at the time said property was destroyed; they found that by reason of the price of articles, the inhabitants had been obliged to pay large sums over and above the value, in procuring necessities for their families; that many of them had their teams forced from them, to remove the public stores, &c. The committee reported to the Assembly the name of each sufferer with his loss allowed, annexed to his name, which amounted to the sum of £16,181 : 1 : 4—which report was accepted by the Assembly, and ordered to be lodged on file, to perpetuate the evidence of the loss of each person, that when Congress should order a compensation, to make out the claims of sufferers.

## RIDGEFIELD.

In the year 1777, Increase Moseley, Nehemiah Beardsley, and Lemuel Sanford, Esq's., were appointed a committee to estimate the losses of the inhabitants of Ridgefield, by the incursion of the enemy on their return from Danbury, as they passed through said Ridgefield, where they burned several dwelling houses and other buildings, killed and took with them many of their cattle, plundered their provisions and clothing, &c. The committee repaired to Ridgefield on the 1st day of December, 1777, (after having notified said sufferers,) and held seve-



ral days' session, in examining the accounts of the sufferers on oath, and reported the names of the sufferers, and the amount of loss sustained by each ; the full amount of which was £2,625 : 1 : 8—which report was accepted by the Assembly, and ordered lodged on file, for the purpose of perpetuating the evidence of each person's loss, the more easily to make out their claims, whenever Congress should order a compensation to said sufferers.

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FAIRFIELD.

At a session of the General Assembly, holden at Hartford, January 12, 1778, a committee, consisting of Thomas Fitch, Thaddeus Betts, and Lemuel Sanford, Esq'srs., were appointed to estimate the damages to each individual in Fairfield, by the hostile invasion of the British troops in their route to Danbury, in April, 1777, and report thereon. The committee notified all the sufferers to meet at the dwelling house of Benjamin Wynkoop, in Fairfield, on the 5th day of April, 1779, and then and there exhibit their accounts of losses sustained by the troops as aforesaid; and at said time and place the committee examined and estimated the losses of each sufferer in said town; and reported to the General Assembly, holden in May, 1779, the names of each of the sufferers, with the sums allowed, annexed to each name, which sums were estimated by the committee at the usual and customary prices of such articles in the year 1774; which amounted, for all sufferers, to the sum of £1,616 : 7 : 10—which report was dated at Fairfield, May 8, 1779. The committee examined B. Wynkoop's account of expenses of the committee, and his collecting the people at his house, and £29 : 18 : 9 was allowed to him by the General Assembly, May Session, 1779.

At the October session of the General Assembly, 1779, Mr. Chandler, Daniel Bennet, and William Hawloy, Esq'srs, were appointed a committee, on the solicitation of the inhabitants of Fairfield, who had suffered by the conflagration and depredations of the enemy in said town, to appraise the losses of each individual. The committee reported, that at sundry times they repaired to Fairfield, and the sufferers, (by the incursion of the enemy under the command of Gen. Tryon, on the 7th and 8th days of July, 1779,) produced their accounts of losses, stated and attested, which the committee carefully examined and adjudged, which included both real and personal property, allowed at such prices as conformed to a rule or standard fixed on by the committee, and such property as did not come within their rule, they allowed them at the rate of prices of 1774. The damage to buildings was appraised by three carpenters, (employed by said committee,) which appraisement was examined and corrected by the committee, and allowed. The committee also abated to those sufferers, who had been burned out of their own or hired houses, all their State taxes that had been or should be laid on their list for 1778—which report contained the following names, as specified hereafter, with their accounts as allowed by said committee, and signed by said committee. Dated at Fairfield, April 27, 1780.

Fees—Mr. Chandler, 10 days at 10s. per day, and three journeys to Fairfield, £5 : 18; Daniel Bennett, 7 days at 10s. per day, three journeys at 6s. £4 : 8; William Hawley, 8 days at 10s. per day, three journeys at 6s. £4 : 18.

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GREENWICH, DANBURY, &c.

Hon. Andrew Adams, and others, were appointed a committee to consider the memorial of the inhabitants of Greenwich, Danbury, and other places, who

had suffered in the war, distinguished losses and damages by the depredations and burnings by the British, and methodically state the facts, what had been, and what still further ought to be or could be done for the relief of said sufferers.

The chairman of said committee reported, that for want of exhibits and documents they were unable methodically and correctly to state the facts of losses and estimate of damages ; and also for the want of proper certificates from the Treasurer and Secretary of State, to report what had already been done by the State for their relief. But were of opinion that the houses and buildings, and necessary household furniture in the frontier towns, (mentioned in the memorial,) burned and destroyed by the enemy during the war, ought to be paid for by this State, at their just value ; and that the only manner in the power of the State, at that time, (viz. 1787,) was to pay the same in *Western Lands*—which report was, in October, 1787, accepted by the House, but rejected by the Upper House.

#### DAMAGE SUSTAINED IN THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD.

Account of the losses sustained in the town of Fairfield by the British, valued as in the year 1774.

AT GREEN'S FARMS—The meeting house and bell, £600 ; Rev. Mr. Ripley's house and barn, £300, also clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £114:2:6 ; Nathan Godfrey's house, barn, clothing, furniture, and provisions, £362:18 ; Grummond Morehouse's house, barn, provisions, &c., £80:4:5 ; Doct. Ebenezer Jessup's house, barn, corn house, furniture, provisions, &c., £421:2:6 ; Simon Couch's house, barn, provisions, furniture, &c., £224:12 ; Widow Eunice Morehouse's house, barn, clothing, furniture, &c., £103:6 ; Ebenezer Morehouse's house, barn, and provisions, &c., £122:7:2 ; George Batterson's house, furniture, &c., £53:11 ; John Davis' house, furniture, provisions, clothing, &c., £58:16 ; Abraham Andrews' house, barn, store, clothing, furniture, &c., £468:10:5 ; Widow Sarah Andrews' house, barn, clothing, provisions, &c., £156:14 ; Jessup Wakeman's house, barn, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £194:18 ; Gideon Morehouse's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £73:14 ; John Morehouse's barn, &c., £253:19 ; Moss Kent's house, clothing, provisions, and furniture, &c., £316:2.

AT THE OLD SOCIETY OF FAIRFIELD—Stephen Thorp's house, barn, store-house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £746:17 ; Aaron Jennings' store-house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £91:19 ; Eliphalet Thorp's house, barn, store-house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £639 ; Increase Bradloy's house, store-house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £150 ; Jonathan Darrows' house, barn, clothing, and provisions, &c., £306:9 ; Samuel Sturges' house, shop, provisions, furniture, &c., £280:3:3 ; James Bulkley, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £18:4 ; Moss Bulkley's house, £40 ; David Beers' house, shop, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £196:3 ; Joseph Beers' house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £132:12 ; Reuben Beers' house, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £530:6 ; Nathaniel Piersons' house, clothing, &c., £90 ; Samuel Beers' house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £141:19:7 ; Solomon Sturges' house, barn, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £270 ; David Barlow's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £387:12:6 ; Jabez Thorp's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £181:13 ; Samuel Burr's house, barn, shop, furniture, provisions, &c.,

£761:7:5; Hezekiah Sturges' house, two barns, a shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £819:1:5; the heirs of Benjamin Osborn, a house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £186:13:6; Daniel Graham's barn, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c., £20; the heirs of Joseph Sturges, a house, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £400; the heirs of Peter Bulkley, a house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £118:17; Ansel Trubee's house, furniture, clothing, and provisions, £111:6; Jonathan Sturges' house, barn, store-house, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £759:2:6; William Levejoy, house of Doct. Forque, £160; the widow and heirs of Seth Osborn, two houses, a store, provisions, clothing, and furniture, £553:7:6; Seth Sturges' house, barn, furniture, provisions, and clothing, £453; Samuel Smedley's two houses, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £795; Stephen Jennings' house, barn, provisions, furniture, and clothing, £279; David Jennings' house, shop provisions, furniture, and clothing, £310:10; Widow Elizabeth Sturges' house, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £100; the heirs of Andrew Jennings, house clothing, furniture, and provisions, £255:17:6; John Smedley's two houses, clothing, provisions, &c. £792:18; the widow and heirs of Gershom Burr, a house, furniture, clothing, provisions, &c., £556:9:6; Ebenezer Wakeman's house, furniture, provisions, and clothing, £141:17:11; the Episcopal society in Fairfield, a house and barn, £195; heirs of Col. David Burr, house, barn, &c., clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £427:11:6; Andrew Rowland's house, barn, store, clothing, furniture, and provisions, £475; Hezekiah Nichols' house, barn, shop, furniture, provisions, and clothing, £524:6; Joseph Squire's shop, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £424:4:7; Samuel Rowland's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £522:2:2; Widow Cutler's house, £30; Wakeman Burr's house, shop, furniture, clothing, and provisions, £456:12:11; William Dimon's house, shop, barn, clothing, furniture, and provisions, £754:18:11; Thomas Hills' house, barn, corn-house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £330; Doct. John Allen's house, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £830; Jonathan Lewis' house, four barns, store, corn-house, three out-houses, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £973:13:6; Thaddeus Burr's house, barn, store, out-houses, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £1,590:19:8; Widow Ann Dimon's house, barn, and two out houses, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £386:7:9; David Allen's two houses, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £551:18:2; Samuel Penfield's house, barn, shop, out-house, stable, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £1,120:10; Jonathan Maltbie's house damaged, £1:10, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £47:7; Doct. Nathaniel Lathrop, a house occupied by William Elliott, £180; Rev. Mr. Elliott, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £365:1:2; Capt. Job Bartram's house, shop, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £1,210:3:8; Thomas Hanford Wakeman's house, barn, furniture, clothing, provisions, &c. £197:8; Doct. Francis Forque, a barn and appendages, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £454; Widow Abigail Hubbell's house, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £214:16:6; Maj. Elijah Abel's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £691:2:10; Stephen Turney's house damaged, two barns, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £94:5:10; the heirs of Ebenezer Burr, a house damaged, £10; Abel Gold, a barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, and clothing, £124; John Parsott's house, provisions, clothes, furniture, &c. £136:6:6; Eleazer Osborn, Jr's. house

clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £211 : 9 : 4 ; the widow of Col. Gold, house, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £282 : 15 ; Edward Budington, (property of Samuel Squire,) house, £80, clothing, provisions, &c. the property of said Budington, £57 : 8 : 10 ; John Wasson, a house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £220 ; Capt. Ebenezer Bartram's house, £200 ; Samuel Squire, Jr., clothing, provisions, &c. £80 : 18 : 6 ; Abraham Parrot, clothing, provisions, &c. £4 : 11 ; Daniel Osborn's house, clothing, furniture, and provisions, £246 : 15 : 6 ; George Allen's house, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £316 : 9 ; Thomas Staples' house, barn, clothing, provisions, and furniture, £294 : 2 : 2 ; Moses Jennings' house, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, &c. £697 : 13 : 6 ; Isaac Jennings' house, barn, shop, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £409 : 7 : 10 ; Peter Burr's house, barn, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £377 : 0 : 9 ; Anthony Anabel, a house and shop, £60 ; Widow Rebecca Jennings' house, £80, barn, £15, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £47 : 17 ; Peter Hendricks' house, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £392 ; Andrew Wakeman's house, clothing, &c. £252 : 18 ; Seth Smith's house, clothing, &c. £56 : 7 ; the Widow Smith's house, provisions, furniture, &c. £41 : 0 : 6 ; Joseph Smith, clothing, provisions, — ; Widow Hannah Taylor's house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £45 : 4 ; Widow Mary Penfield's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £135 ; John Turney's two houses, barn, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £509 : 10 ; Capt. Samuel Squire's house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £518 : 6 : 4 ; Jeremiah Jennings' house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £220 : 8 ; the gaol and gaoler's houses, £500, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. — ; the county house, £1,000 ; two school houses, £115 ; the meeting house, £1,200 ; the Episcopal church, £500 ; Nathan Thompson Nichols' house, £80, shop, £10, clothing, &c. £5 : 10.

Total—97 dwelling houses, 67 barns, 48 stores, 2 school houses, 1 county house, 2 meeting houses, and 1 Episcopal church. Damage was done to other individuals not mentioned aforesaid, to the amount of £1,855 : 3 : 2, by the destruction of personal property, a large share of which was owned by widows and other females.

#### [DEPOSITIONS.]

The testimony of Eunice Burr, wife of Thaddeus Burr, Esq., respecting the proceedings of the enemy at Fairfield, on the 7th and 8th days of July, 1779, is as follows :—On Wednesday morning, 7th of July, 1779, between 9 and 10 o'clock, some friends came in and told me that they believed that the enemy's shipping were standing in, and that it was their opinion that the enemy would land. Being formerly well acquainted with a number of the British officers, and ever finding them of a polite, humane disposition, and observing the good order they kept up among their soldiers, I was induced, once to act against all the entreaties of my friends, and risk my life, and all that was dear to me, in hopes to save an ancient, pleasant mansion house, with its valuable furniture and stores. This I was the more willing to undertake, as I had been told, “that if people would stay in their own houses (they) the enemy would not molest them, and their property would be safe.” By the time the main body of the enemy had got up to the court house ; instead of the once humane and polite Britons, a pack of the most barbarous ruffians came rushing into the house, and repeatedly accosted me with, *You damn'd rebel, where is your husband, he is a select-man ;* at the same time stripping me of my buckles, tearing down the curtains of

my bed, breaking the frame of my dressing glass, pulling out the drawers of my table and desk ; and after taking what they could find, they then went up stairs, and proceeded much in the same manner. At this juncture, there came in an officer, who, I suppose was a captain, and demanded the arms ; those which I knew of, were produced, and he immediately ordered them out of the house ; upon my representation of the conduct of the ruffians towards me, he ordered them out of the house. No sooner were one set out, but another came in, calling for cider, breaking down the china, stone, and glass ware in the closets, and wherever they found it. In the midst of this confusion, Gen. Tryon came into the house ; he behaved with politeness ; he demanded the papers. I told him there were none but of very old dates, which related to the old estates. The general said, those are what we want, for we intend to have the estates. Upon which he ordered an officer to take them to the court house. Very soon after he had taken leave of me, there came in a set, more dreadful than the ruffians who first attacked me ; these being informed, or suspicious, that I was possessed of a watch, attempted to search me ; I drew back to the yard, the only shelter that I had, and there committed myself to God, whose protection and mercy is beyond the reach of such cruel monsters. They, however, were permitted to pursue me, throw me upon the ground, and search me, pulling and tearing my clothes from me in a most barbarous manner ; no entreaties or persuasions, prevailing upon them to desist. Heaven directed the steps of the before mentioned captain to the gate, who perceiving the horrid situation that I was in, ran to my relief, and drove the ruffians from the yard. Soon after this, Gen. Tryon, with Mr. Thomas Chapman, of Stratford, who is said to be a captain in the new levies, called in. Mr. Chapman made himself known to me ; upon which, I reminded him of his often waiting upon a more soft and delicate set of company to the house, than those I had been visited with in the course of the day. I asked him if he could have a heart to burn the house where he had spent so many agreeable hours. Upon which, he assured me, he would do every thing in his power to save the building. Gen. Tryon, upon hearing the said captain relate the situation he found me in, was kind enough to order two sentries at the house, which caused me a more quiet night than I feared ; though horror and distress were my constant companions, a great part of the town being then in flames. Just before the sun rose, Capt. Chapman came to me very politely, and told me that Gen. Tryon wanted to speak to me. I immediately waited on him ; he told me that through the entreaties of Mr. Sayer, and some other friends, and knowing my situation, he should spare my buildings, Mr. Elliot's, the church, and meeting house ; that he did not like destroying those buildings. I told him, I was obliged to him for the favor, and felt as happy to have those buildings saved, as my own, and that I thought he would do himself honor. He asked for pen, ink, and paper. I very readily procured them ; he then, unasked, and unsolicited by me, gave me a protection for my house and property, and the Rev. Mr. Elliot's, written with his own hand, and signed with his own name. Thus deluded with a false hope, after the fatigue of the day, night, and more dreadful morning, when every building around me, was on fire ; and some of my poor neighbors, whose habitations were in flames, had run into my house for shelter, instead of attempting to carry out and secure what was in the house ; our whole attention was taken up in supplying the house with water, and although they were almost buried in flames, neither the barn or house took fire. The pleasure and satisfaction I felt for a few minutes, in thinking that I had a shelter for myself and some of my distressed

friends, was great ; but alas ! how soon was it over. No sooner had the horn blew, I suppose for the whole to retreat, my sentries went off, and a band of those savage creatures were left as a rear guard to complete the destruction ; some of whom, unperceived by me, came into the house. I heard a most dreadful screeching in one of the rooms ; upon which I ran to it, and to my great surprise, found some of those monsters abusing an aged lady, one of my neighbors, by pulling off her cap and tearing her hair from her head. Her daughter, who had fled for protection, fared but little better. Seeing a number more of them come into the gate, I once more took courage, went out and entreated them to spare the house ; told them that I had Gen. Tryon's protection in writing ; upon which they damned the general and protection, and tore it from me, while a number went into the house to set fire to it ; two or three others come to search me ; they took my pocket book and buttons, which till then, I had preserved. Fearing that I should be insulted, as I had been before, I disengaged my pocket and fled into the meadow. The house, with every thing they had left, both furniture and stores, were consumed. Much more might be told both of officers and soldiers, which would bring disgrace upon the once humane, but now savage Britons ; but it would make this narrative too lengthy. One more instance of their cruelty, I must not fail to relate. On a base suspicion, that a gun was fired from a window, by an aged negro of my neighbor Lewis, they first shot him, then bayoneted him as my sentry, who was one of the number, told me, and left his body to be consumed by the flames, which were immediately kindled in the dwelling house.

Should this narration fall into the hands of any of those officers, who afforded me assistance, in those hours of horror and distress, they have my sincere thanks for it.

Sworn at Fairfield, August 2, 1779, before SAMUEL SQUIRE, Justice of Peace.

Testimony of Jane Bulkley, the wife of Andrew Bulkley, is as follows, viz. : That when the enemy entered the town of Fairfield, that part of the army under Gen. Garth, were stationed in the westerly part of the town, and a number of officers and men came to my house, and received such refreshments as they required ; and said that persons who stayed in their houses, should be safe in person and property ; and at their request, I went and milked my cow, and gave them the milk ; whereupon, the cow was led away by them, and killed. My house was fired five times, and I extinguished it. The men were at full liberty, and behaved with great licentiousness. I heard a number of under officers at my door, say, that before morning, every house would be laid in ashes ; that we should not fare so well as New Haven. They plundered my house, stripped my buckles out of my shoes, and abused me with insulting language. Their officers had not, or did not exercise command over them, so as in the least to restrain them ; they continued burning houses and barns the whole night. I had a protection from Garth, by word, and he ordered a guard for me ; but it served only to save my property until day light, and then my house was plundered, and attempted to be burned. The latter part of the night, the soldiers appeared in drink, they plundered a plenty of spiritous liquors.

JANE BULKLEY.

July 24, 1779. Sworn before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of Peace.



The testimony of Mary Beers, wife of Reuben Beers:—That about 1 o'clock, succeeding the 7th inst., a piquet of Hessians, in Gen. Garth's division, broke into our house, and thereupon I came out of the cellar, with two small children and a negro child; and on opening the cellar door, they cried out, kill her, kill her, and came at me with a number of fixed bayonets. I begged and entreated, implored and prayed to spare my life, and ran back down cellar, and opened the out cellar door, and went into the door-yard with the three children; and I found there a number of the enemy with an officer. I expostulated with them; I told the officer, that my husband was sick, and had not been out for two days; that he was a sick man and in bed when they came to the house; that he was not in arms, and begged for his life and property. Whereupon the captain said, he was not killed, but was a prisoner. Whereupon I applied to the general, as I supposed, who was a Hessian called; I asked protection for myself, children, and property, and release of my husband. The Hessian general and a colonel said, my husband should be well used; that my person, property, children and house should be safe; but said he, (the general laying his hand on the head of my little babe,) poor child, I pity you, I cannot spare your house, it must be burnt. Thereupon up came the officer of those who first broke into the house, and he said, "go, woman, in haste, you may perhaps put the fire out of your house;" and I went protected by a guard, who behaved decently; and I found my house effectually plundered of linen by them, and great destruction of moveables in the house, and I extinguished the fire. Whereupon I went to the house of David Beers, who to my knowledge was in peace at home with his wife and family, and they entered the said house with violence, and took Mr. Beers a prisoner, and plundered his house, and pretended that he had fired out of his house, but it was groundless; and in the morning, without distinction, they burnt his house and shop, and all moveables in them. Their behavior was like distracted or mad men, and pretended, many of them, not to speak English.

MARY BEERS.

The aforesaid deposition, confirmed by Reuben Beers, and both sworn at Fairfield, 24th July, 1779, before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of the Peace.

The testimony of Isabella Trubee, wife of Ansel Trubee, of Fairfield, is as follows, viz.:—That when the enemy, on the night of the 7th of July, 1779, came to the westerly end of the town, (of Fairfield) they appeared to be generally, Hessians; and I concealed myself with two children in the cellar, under the dwelling house of uncle David Beers, and there continued until the enemy set fire to the house. Mr. Beers, aforesaid, was at home, with his wife and daughter, and some grand children, in peace and about his lawful business; they seized him, and made him prisoner. My aunt, his wife, told them he was unarmed, and had not shot a gun, she supposed, within 30 years; and thereupon, they set fire to the house and burnt it down, and also his shop and all therein. About this time, my father, Mr. Joseph Beers, came a few rods out of his house, where he had been all the day, in peace with my mother, and he was taken by the Hessians, and remains in captivity, and his house and barn was burnt, and property destroyed. Mr. David Beers has since returned, and says, he was released at their embarkation.

her  
ISABELLA  TRUBEE.  
mark.

Sworn at Fairfield, July 23, 1779, before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of Peace.




The testimony of Ruana Roberson, of lawful age, and wife of John Roberson, of Fairfield, is as follows, viz.:—When the enemy, on the evening of the 7th inst., first came into the west end of this town, I soon left my house and went to a neighbor's, which I heard was guarded, and there I found the general and a great number of officers; and one Mrs. Beardsley, who belonged to the house was there, and pregnant, and appeared to be in travail. All the officers appeared disposed to treat her and her assistants with decency; and in the course of the night, I often heard the officers and general say, there should not be left a house or barn standing in the town, by, or in the morning. There were but few soldiers in the house, and they employed in waiting on tables; and they spared that dwelling house on account of Mrs. Beardsley, who was supposed to be in labor. They said the commissioners made offers of peace, and the Americans refused to accept them, and that their orders were to burn all, and I understood the orders were from England. They said they would burn the church, for that it was not the church of England, nor had it been since the war, for the professors did not comply with the articles of the church of England. The Hessians appeared active in plundering and burning, and seemed not to understand English. 'Twas at sundry houses where they came and plundered, and they gave to understand they pursued orders. And further saith not.

RUANA ROBERSON.

Fairfield, July 22, 1779. Sworn before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of Peace.

The testimony of Abigail Bulkley, wife of Josiah Bulkley, of lawful age, is as follows, viz.:—That the enemy, on their coming to the west end of the town, on the night of the 7th inst., they enquired after my husband. I told them he was out of the town, and was not under arms; however, they plundered my house of almost all the moveables in it. I went with Mrs. Beardsley, who was supposed to be in travail, and the officers then behaved decently to me, and by the aid and assistance of one of them, I saved my house, and some trifle of furniture from the flames. It appeared to me there were a number of Hessians at liberty to act without restraint. And further deponent saith not.

her  
ABIGAIL  BULKLEY.  
mark.

Fairfield, July 23, 1779. Sworn before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of Peace.

The testimony of Ann Nichols, of lawful age, and wife to Hezekiah Nichols, of Fairfield, is as follows, viz.:—That when the troops under the command of Gen. Tryon, came into Fairfield, I was peaceably at home; and thereupon, one of the soldiers came to me and with strong hand, robbed me of the buckles out of my shoes; and in the course of the night, I was often treated with extravagant, insulting, and abusive language, and threatening at my own house. I told them my husband was from home, but it availed nothing; and in the course of the night, the soldiers appeared to have full liberty, and many came in parties, at different hours, and destroyed almost every thing of furniture; and in the morning burnt down the house and barn. Whereupon I saw Gen. Tryon, who appeared to be exceeding angry at something, I know not what; and I heard him tell a person, that he would not spare one house more than another. One Thomas Chapman, formerly of Stratford, a tory, was called a captain, and appeared to be a principal hand in burning. I escaped from the conflagration of

the town, in the morning, and concealed myself in a wet ditch and miry swamp. The soldiers, generally, appeared to be in a great panic through the night, and exceedingly afraid that the rebels, as they called us, would be upon them in the morning early.

ANN NICHOLS.

Fairfield, July 21, 1779. Sworn before ANDREW ROWLAND, Justice of Peace.

#### COL. SAMUEL WHITING'S ANSWER TO THE BRITISH FLAG.

Connecticut having nobly dared to take up arms against the cruel despotism of Britain, and as the flames, have now preceded the answer to your flag, they will persist to oppose to their utmost, that power exerted against injured innocence.

SAMUEL WHITING, Colonel Commanding.

To Maj. Gen. Tryon.

Dated Fairfield, 7th July, 1779.

#### CHURCH RECORD OF FAIRFIELD.

The following is a copy of the Church Record in the town of Fairfield, made at the time Fairfield was burnt by the British, in 1779, by the Rev. Andrew Elliot, who was the Pastor of the Congregational Church at that time, and forwarded for publication by the Rev. Lyman H. Atwater, the present Pastor.

“1779, JULY 7.

“A part of the British enemy, consisting of Britons, Germans, and American refugees, under the command of Maj. Gen. Tryon and Brig. Gen. Garth, landed in this town from a fleet, commanded by Sir George Collier.

“In the evening and night of the same day, great part of the buildings in the town plot were consumed in the flames by said troops.

“July 8th. In the morning the Meeting House, together with the Church of England buildings, the Court House, Prison, and almost all the principal buildings in the Society, were laid in ashes.

“Our holy and our beautiful house

“Where our fathers praised thee, is

“Burnt up with fire: and all our

“Pleasant things are laid waste.

“The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken

“Away: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

“All things work together for good to them

“That love God—to them who are the

“Called according to his purpose.

“Alleluia.

“The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

—“Amen.”—

[NOTE.—The Rev. Andrew Elliot's Letter is published in the Massachusetts Historical Collections, and is therefore omitted in this work.]

#### A PETITION TO GOVERNOR TRUMBULL FROM THE INHABITANTS OF NORWALK.

To His Excellency Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of Connecticut; comes the civil authority and selectmen of the town of Norwalk, in behalf of themselves and the rest of the inhab.

itants of said Norwalk, and with submission beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that numbers of the soldiers in Col. Sheldon's regiment of light-horse belonging to the continental army, and others, frequently come into the parish of Canaan and other back parts in said Norwalk, and by force and violence enter the inhabitants' barns, and at will and pleasure, with the same force, take their oats and carry them off, and in some instances thresh oats and destroy and make much waste ; and also take such kinds of grain and stover as they think proper, and carry it away without ever applying to any authority, or shewing any power or authority to do the same, and against the mind and will of the inhabitants and without their consent ; and also in many instances strip the inhabitants to such a degree of their oats, that if it is not prevented there will not be a sufficiency of oats left in the town for seed next year ; and the inhabitants are apprehensive that they will next attack their Indian corn, and then their wheat, as the light-horsemen in some instances in some of the back places have taken the peoples' wheat to feed their horses ; and that if they should be suffered to conduct in that sort, the people are apprehensive they shall be put to great straights and difficulties for want of the necessary articles of bread-corn. And that these light-horsemen come armed and with such force, that the inhabitants cannot prevent them from taking their substance, without taking up arms, and in that way defend their property, which method they would by all means avoid, in hopes that their property may be secured to them without taking such desperate methods ; and that as there does not seem to be any rule given by law upon an application for a press warrant in such cases, we would beg leave humbly to propose to your Excellency, whether it is not necessary at this time, and the property of the people more secure, to have some rules and laws made respecting these matters. And that there has been one instance this week wherein one of the inhabitants took out a writ against one or two of the light-horsemen for threatening his life, and of burning his dwelling house and barn, for refusing to let them take his oats ; and that one of said light-horsemen was taken with said writ soon after, while Capt. Stoddard came into the town with a number of his men and rescued him out of the hands of the officer and carried him off, and the complainant and his son ; which we imagine and are fearful will ever be the case, and the people distressed, if it is not prevented ; all which is humbly submitted, by your Excellency's most obedient humble servants.

Norwalk, 1778.

(Signed)

Thaddeus Betts, Charles Raymond, Justices of the Peace ; Jesse Raymond, Nehemiah Benedict, Nathaniel Benedict, David Comstock, Daniel Betts, Selectmen.

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#### PETITION OF JOHN LOCKWOOD AND OTHERS OF NORWALK.

It appears by a petition of John Lockwood, and 37 others, of Norwalk, to the General Assembly, in December, 1780, that in July, 1779, all the subscribers were burned out of house and home, and stripped and plundered by the British, of nearly all their household furniture ; their barns also destroyed by fire, with the greater part of their wheat harvest and English hay, to the very great distress and impoverishment of the inhabitants.

Representations had before been made to the Assembly of the distress and losses, to which the Legislature had listened in tenderness, and granted the relief

of the abatement of the State tax on list 1778, for which the sufferers in the conflagration, tendered them their unfeigned thanks.

Many of the suffering farmers had not sufficient wheat to support their families until the next harvest, though they would have had large quantities to have supplied others, had it not been destroyed. So many buildings were burnt, that it was impossible to rent houses, so as to be comfortably located to use their farms; and many of them were obliged to build small houses, and disposed of all they could spare, to re-settle upon their farms, and most of them left in debt, and obliged to live without barns to preserve their grain, because they were unable to build them; and many who had built their houses were unable to finish them, and lived in them through the following winter, cold and half finished, for want of money and materials for building, while labor was exceedingly high, and it appeared to many of them as if it was impossible ever to settle themselves again in any tolerable manner. In addition to the burden of building, they were destitute of the necessary utensils for keeping house; town, state, and society taxes to pay; taxes for re-building public buildings that were burnt; the provision tax then lately laid; the expense of raising soldiers from time to time to fill the continental army: In all which, with their misfortunes, they were obliged to suffer with their neighbors, which appeared insupportable to many of the sufferers, in their then distressed situation; and yet declared they would exert themselves in assisting to discharge all public demands, as far as possible, willingly and cheerfully, and only regretted that they were not of the same ability to do, as they had been before they had been burnt out.

The memorialists closed by asking the Assembly to abate their State taxes, laid on list 1779 and 1780.

[Col. Benjamin Hinman, Nehemiah Beardsley, and William Heron were appointed a committee to go to Norwalk, to examine and report to the Assembly.] Said committee reported in May, 1781, that the State tax of 123 persons in said Norwalk, on list of 1779; and that said tax, on list 1780, on 119 persons in said town, should be abated—which was accepted.

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#### DEPOSITION OF CAPT. STEPHEN BETTS.

NORWALK, July 26, 1779.

Capt. Stephen Betts, of Col. Butler's regiment, in the continental service, personally appeared and made solemn oath—That on the 11th inst., while the enemy invaded Norwalk, he, with about 50 continental troops, and some militia, engaged a superior number of the enemy, which obliged them to give way to an unequal force. As they retreated, John Waters, a continental soldier fell into the enemy's hands, delivered up his arms, and begged for his life; but the enemy notwithstanding, assaulted him with their bayonets, with which they stabbed him in sundry places, and then one of them presented his peice, and aimed (as the captive supposed) at his body, but missing that, the ball shattered his arm; whereupon finding no quarters, he made a strong effort to escape, which he happily effected. Soon after the above accident, John Rich, another continental soldier, was shot so as to fall, and as the enemy were nigh, and crowded fast on over our people, he desired Capt. Betts to leave him, as they could not take him off without the greatest hazard. Capt. Betts saw Rich no more, but says Capt. Eells, of Col. Wyllys' regiment, told him, he saw Rich after the enemy had retreated

about two hours after Capt. Betts saw him; he was then dead, and the top of his skull torn off, supposed to be blown off by a musket to despatch him. And further saith not, before me.

THADDEUS BETTS, Justice of the Peace.

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LETTER FROM SAMUEL C. SILLIMAN, ESQ., TO COL. ST. JOHN.

It appears by a letter from Samuel C. Silliman, Esq., of Norwalk, dated 1778, to Col. St. John, then a member of the General Assembly, that Col. St. John issued a writ in favor of a Mr. Comstock, against two of Sheldon's light horsemen, taken by constable Lockwood, for taking property not their own, who were taken before said Silliman for trial; but before the trial had began, the captain of the two light horsemen, (i. e. Capt. Stoddard of Col. Sheldon's regiment) came in, in great fury, with a party of his light horsemen, all armed, and their swords drawn, and pointed at the breasts of the court and by-standers, and wrested the offenders from them, and defied the authority; laid violent hands on Mr. Comstock the prosecutor, and dragged him from the house. The court, when attempting to quell the riot, was accosted by one of said light horsemen, with his sword pointed at the breast of the court, swore he would run him through, if he offered the least resistance. They then forced Mr. Comstock and one of his sons, on to horses and carried them off, and swore they would take them to their quarters and keep them under guard. They drove them two or three miles, constantly threatening them, in the most abusive language, and then dismissed them.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DAMAGES SUSTAINED IN WEST HAVEN BY THE INCURSION OF THE BRITISH.

It was represented to the Legislature, held at Hartford, January 10, 1782, that on the 30th day of August, 1781, a party of British troops and refugees, made an incursion into the parish of West Haven, in New Haven, and destroyed much of the property of the inhabitants. Whereupon, the Assembly appointed Gen. Andrew Ward, Col. Edward Russel, and Gideon Buckingham, a committee to estimate the losses of each individual, by the enemy, and abate such part of the State taxes of said sufferers as said committee should judge proper, and report thereon to the next session of said Assembly. The committee met at West Haven on the 13th day of March, 1782, and examined the sufferers on oath, and reported to the Assembly each sufferer in said parish, and the amount of loss found by them annexed to his name, together with a list of names of such as should be abated on said taxes, to the amount of £30 : 15 : 2, together with £365 : 18 : 6, allowed the sufferers in said parish; which report was accepted by the Assembly, and ordered to be lodged on file, with liberty of a bill to make said abatement.

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MAY, 1787.

At the General Assembly holden in May, 1787, the sufferers in different parts of the State united in a petition to the Assembly, for remuneration; in which they stated, they had twice before petitioned the Assembly, and had received no answer; which petition was signed by Daniel Taylor for the sufferers in Danbury; Thomas Fitch for those in Norwalk; Jonathan Sturges for Fairfield; John Mead for Greenwich; Ebenezer Ledyard for Groton; John Deshon for New London; Charles Chauncey for New Haven; Philip B. Bradley for Ridgefield; and Andrew Ward and Daniel Leete for the sufferers of Guilford; which petition was continued to the next General Assembly.

### LANDS GIVEN THE SUFFERERS FOR LOSSES SUSTAINED DURING THE WAR.

Upon a memorial in 1791, of the inhabitants of the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk, in Fairfield county, the great losses occasioned by the devastations of the British during the war, were shewn to the General Assembly; on which they prayed for remuneration from the State. A committee was appointed by the Legislature, in May, 1791, to ascertain from documents in the public offices, the losses, not only of the memorialists, but of others who had been sufferers under similar circumstances, that had been estimated in conformity to previous acts of the Assembly, such as had been occasioned by incursions of the enemy during the war. The Assembly, therefore, in May, 1792, by a resolution, released and quit-claimed, to the sufferers, named on the State record, or to their legal representatives, if deceased, and to their heirs and assigns forever, 500,000 acres of land, owned by Connecticut, situated west of Pennsylvania, bounded north on lake Erie, beginning at the west line of said lands, and extending eastward to a line running northerly and southerly parallel to the east line of said tract of land owned by this State, and extending the whole width of said lands, and easterly so far as to comprise said quantity of 500,000 acres, (exclusive of former grants to sufferers, if any) to be divided among said sufferers and their legal representatives, in proportion to the several sums annexed to their names on record, (which land is located in Huron county, in the State of Ohio.)

The following sums were allowed to the sufferers in the several towns hereafter named, viz. :—Sufferers in Greenwich, £12,291 : 14 : 0½; sufferers in Norwalk, £26,066 : 0 : 1; sufferers in Fairfield, £23,893 : 12 : 8.

Additional losses sustained by several inhabitants of Fairfield, in the enemy's expedition to Danbury, viz. :—£1,436 : 10 : 11; in Danbury, £8,303 : 17 : 10½; in New Haven and East Haven, £16,912 : 16 : 6; in New London, £42,062 : 13 : 7; in Ridgefield, £1,730 : 1 : 10.

The sums advanced to Ridgefield by grants of the Assembly, were deducted, and the net balances allowed.

To sufferers in Groton, £7,719 : 12 : 2.

Whole amount of losses allowed to the sufferers by the grant of said lands, being £251,606 : 8 : 8½.

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### GALLANT CONDUCT OF CAPT. HILLYER.

In 1779, one Bearmore, a famous cow boy chief or tory, was eminently successful in plundering and committing depredations on his countrymen about the lines, and as a spy for the British troops in that vicinity.

Captain Andrew Hillyer, (late Col. Hillyer, of Granby, Conn.) was then stationed at Horse Neck, with his troop of light horse, and was ordered to "beat up" Bearmore's quarters, and if possible make him prisoner. Accordingly Capt. Hillyer mustered his troop in the evening, and marched in the night, with all caution to Bearmore's rendezvous; but he in some way was alarmed, and leaped from his bed, through a window, naked, escaped in the darkness of the night, leaving his clothes, sword, and some plunder, in the hands of the continentals. The troop then being in the vicinity of the enemy, it became necessary they should make a hasty march for their own quarters, which they did, keeping out scouts in all directions, to avoid surprise. About day break, the troop overtook

a company of infantry, numbering about 50 men, commanded by Capt. White, who had been out through the night on some special service. At this moment, two scouts that had covered the rear of the light horse, came dashing in among them, one of which, was covered with blood, his hand hanging by the skin, having been lopped off at the wrist by a British dragoon ; and reported that a squadron of British cavalry were close upon them. Capt. White exclaimed, I am lost, my infantry cannot escape. Capt. Hillyer said no, that must not be ; follow my directions, we will make a stand, and fare alike ; divide your men and throw them over the stone wall on each side of the road, in a quartering direction, that the fire of one party may not injure the other ; be deliberate, and when you have the word "charge," do what you can.

The light horse were formed across the road, out of the fire of the infantry, and displayed as large a front as their numbers would warrant. The arrangement was barely completed, when the British cavalry in large force, was discovered sweeping along with great speed, apparently intending to ride down the small troop of continentals, who, with swords loosened, and pistols cocked, were drawn up to receive them. .

When the British had reached the mark, about four rods from the light horse, and against the spot where the infantry were posted, and who had not been discovered, Capt. Hillyer gave the signal "charge them, my lads." The troopers discharged their pistols, drew their swords, and spurred against the enemy ; at the same time, the infantry rose from behind the wall and poured in such a deadly and well directed fire, that a considerable number of the enemy were killed, while the ranks of the light horse were much embarrassed by the rush of horses, without riders, among them. The British were completely surprised, and immediately faced about and retired beyond the reach of the infantry, when they again formed, and advanced to the attack, but before they were within reach of shot, the infantry could not be restrained, and commenced firing. The British then wheeled, and retreated in good order ; the light horse highly excited, urged their commander to allow them to follow and cut the red coats in pieces.

The Americans kept their ground until the British had crossed Byram river. Capt. White then made for the woods. The light horse, after securing what was valuable on the field, and the horses that had lost their riders, with all speed made their own head quarters. The plunder taken from Bearmore and the British on that occasion, was sold for more than \$20,000 continental money. Capt. Hillyer was presented with a beautiful Yager's Rifle, as testimony of his gallant conduct.

Bearmore soon after received his deserts ; while robbing a dwelling house, in Bloomsbury, New Jersey, he attempted to take a string of gold beads from the neck of a lady, (Mrs. Eunice Die,) who had at her side, a pair of long, sharp pointed scissors, which she plunged into his body, and killed him instantly.

THE END.



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ERRATA.

- Page 85, lines 12th and 17th (in note) from the top, for *Mayor*, read "Major."
- Page 147, line 19th from the top, for *Harkenrer's*, read "Herkimer's."
- Page 149, (note) line 9th from the bottom, erase the period after the word *fled*, and insert it after the word *asleep*.
- Page 228, line 20th from the top, for *lories*, read "forces."
- Page 319, line 9th from the top, for *clergyman*, read "farmer."
- Page 320, erase in the 2d line from the bottom, the words within the parenthesis.
- Page 320, in the 16th line from the bottom for "1770," read "1769, during which year Gov. Pitkin died, and J. Trumbull, Esq., was appointed Governor by the General Assembly, May session, 1770."
- Page 320, in the 2d line from the bottom, for *they*, read "the General Assembly"—same page, 5th line from the bottom, for *electors*, read "Legislature."
- Page 394, line 7th from the top, (in note) for *John*, read "Thomas."
- Page 609, in the 17th line from the bottom, for *Stabing*, read "stabbing."





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